

IT'S BEEN REAL.

James Madison University · The Bluestone · 2014



family. basketball.

spirit. 1781.

beginnings.

AAs. nendly.

ome. springfest.

ball parties.

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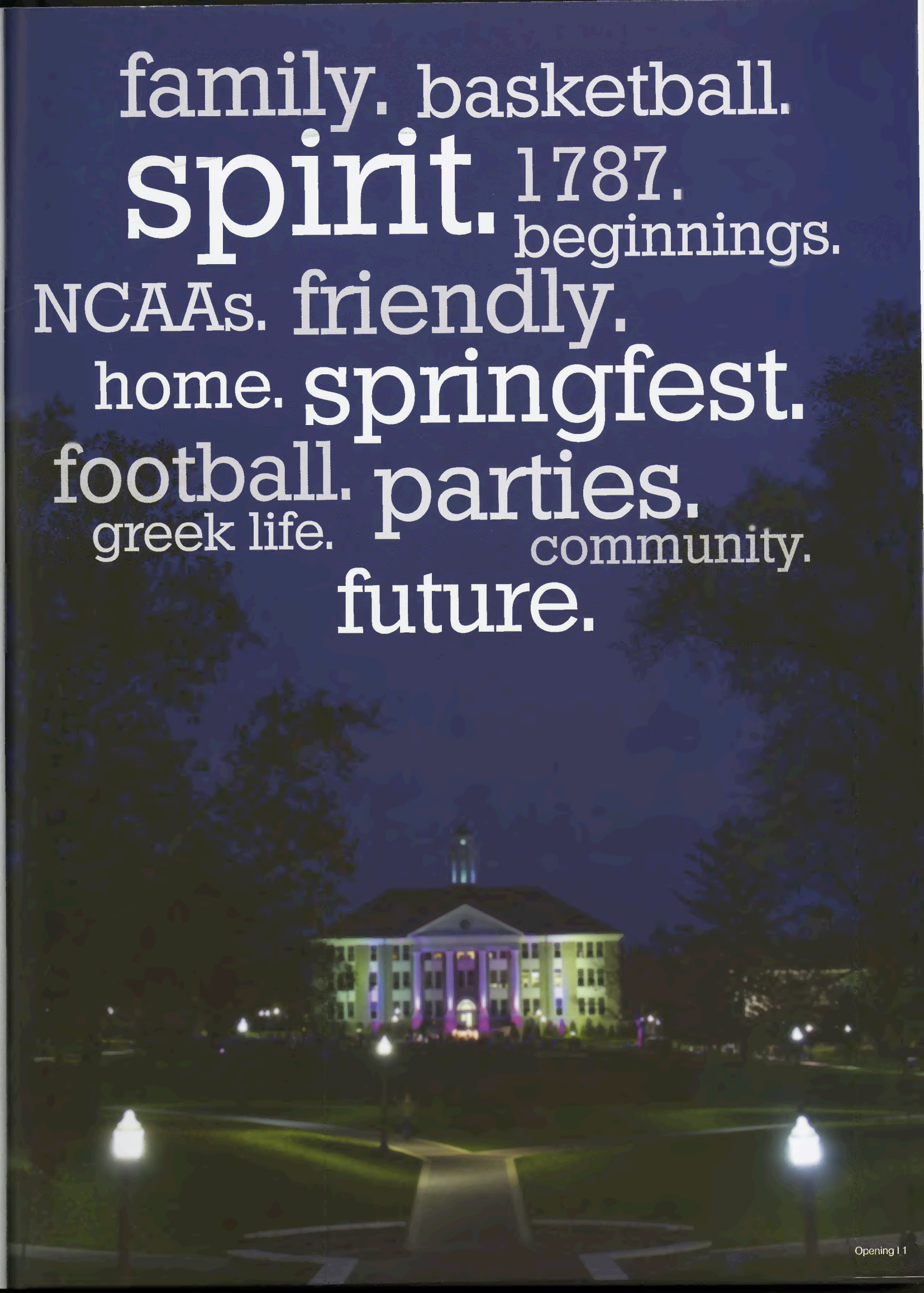
future.



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family. basketball.
spirit. 1787.
beginnings.
NCAAs. friendly.
home. springfest.
football. parties.
greek life. community.
future.



This is just a list of words. And, sure, some people
might use them to describe **JMU**, its students
or its campus.

But when it comes down to it,
they're **JUST** words. If anything, they're empty.

Uttered from the point of view of an outsider who doesn't
understand the

REALITY
of what it means
to call this university **HOME.**

They try to define us, format and model us.
Clump us under **LABELS** like "Springfest" or
"NCAA finalists."

But let's get real, **JMU.** Like, really real.
We're **NOT** just partiers, what national news says we are
or what other teams call us at games, matches
or meets.

We're brothers,
sisters, family, a **COMMUNITY.**
Beyond that, we're a
CULTURE.

A culture of opening doors,
NOT just for each other or into buildings,
but into each other's lives.

Into **OPPORTUNITIES.**
We're a **FAMILY** of athletes, students, engineers,
journalists, scientists and everything,

Remember that no matter what we're called, **EVERYONE**
how we're viewed or what we've done, it's in between.
been a hell of a year. It's been

REAL.



26 Navid Attayan

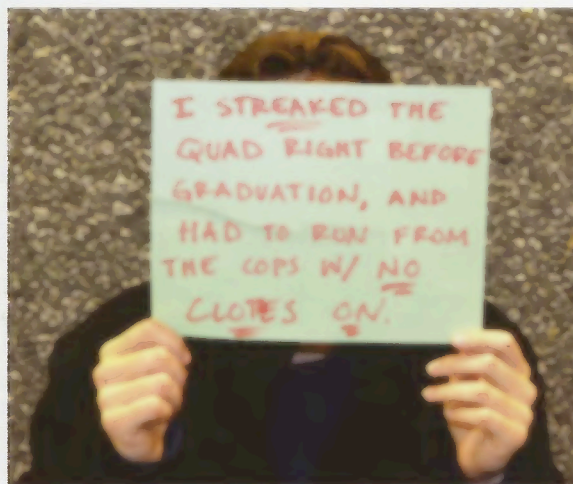
Fifth-year senior Navid Attayan returned from his 3,000 mile bike trip across the United States. He spread awareness for pediatric cancer and had a few life-changing experiences along the way.



20 Macklemore

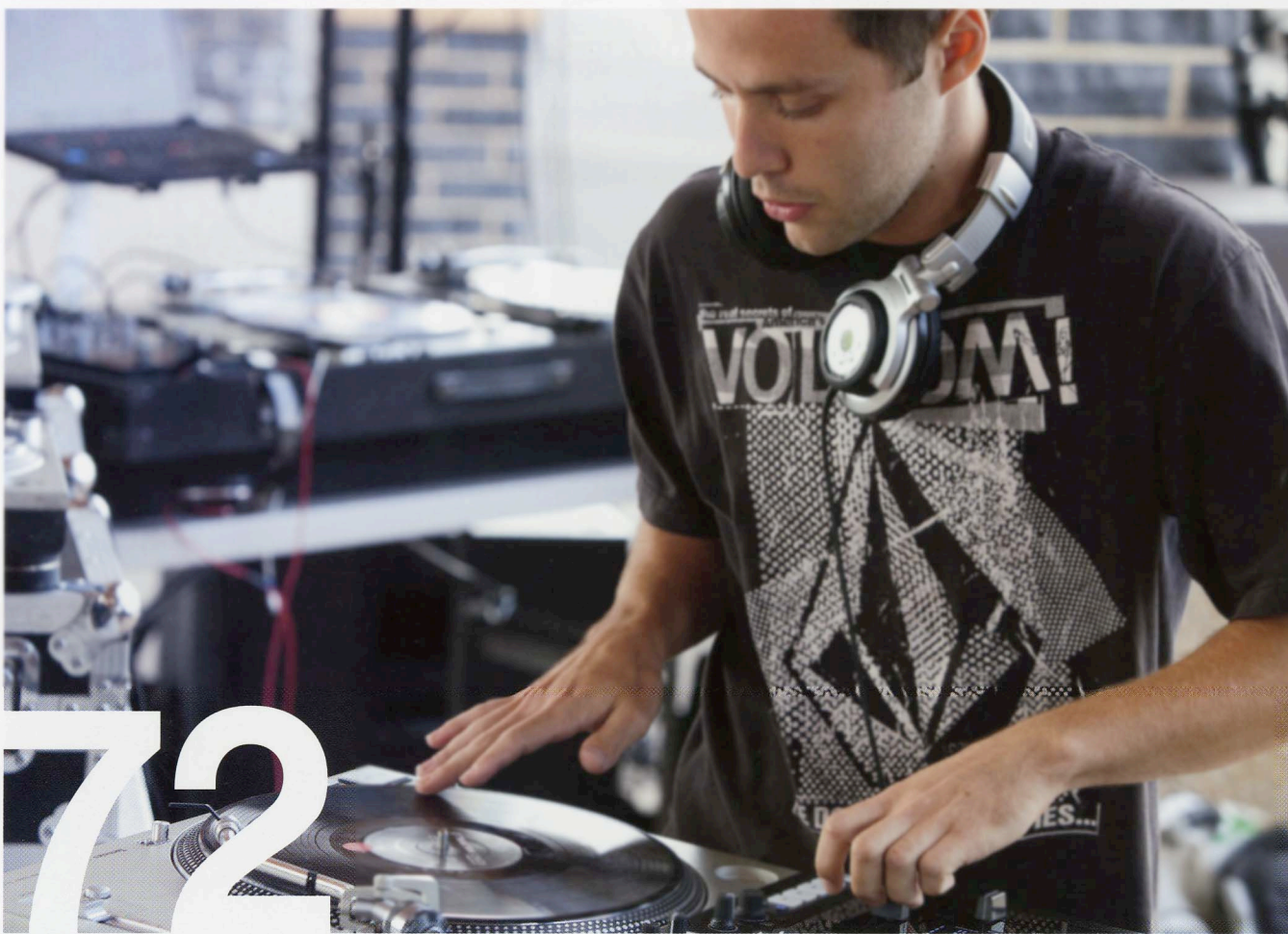
Macklemore & Ryan Lewis took the stage at the Convocation Center. "Thrift Shop" was so popular the pair sang it twice. Find out what made this hip-hop duo special.

Madipalooza	14
Alger Inauguration	16
Erik Griffin/Adam Mamawala	18
Graduation	24
Students Write Novel	34
Eli Roberts/Ojo Taylor	36
Steps	38



30 Confessionals

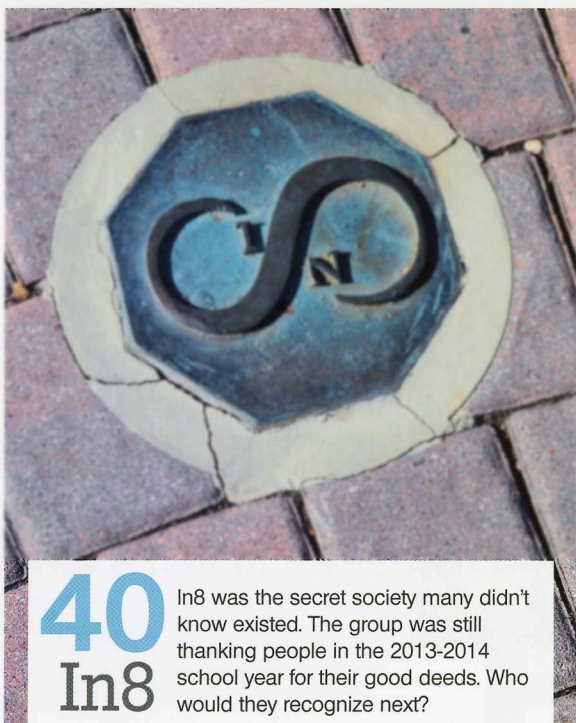
Students revealed their funny and embarrassing secrets under the protection of anonymity. How do your stories compare?



72

Ryan Slocum

Ryan Slocum made his mark on campus by DJing parties and local events. Read on to find out what set his style apart and made him unforgettable.



40

In8

In8 was the secret society many didn't know existed. The group was still thanking people in the 2013-2014 school year for their good deeds. Who would they recognize next?



66 New Food Trucks

Food trucks in the Harrisonburg community allowed students to try different cuisines. Which one was your favorite?



Delta Tau Delta 78

The university welcomed a brand-new fraternity to campus this year. Meet the brothers of Delta Tau Delta!

- 42 Student Writes App
- 44 6 Degrees of Separation
- 50 Generations at JMU
- 52 Why JMU?
- 54 Maddy Night Live
- 56 Interesting Internships
- 58 A Capella Tryouts
- 62 Pete Johnson
- 64 Patti Lupone
- 68 Downtown Film Series
- 74 JMU Nerdfighter
- 76 Nap Nook
- 80 Sarah Prescott
- 86 Newtown
- 88 Fahrenheit 451
- 90 JMU Lifehacks
- 92 How Organizations are Formed

94 Phil Vassar

Phil Vassar returned to his alma mater for a show that featured crowd favorites from older albums, as well as a few famous covers.



96 Halloween

Students flooded UREC on Halloween to enjoy costumes, games and a few scares along the way.



40 Boston Bombing

Patrick Wilson tells his story about his experience in Boston when the bombs went off at the annual Boston Marathon.



98

JMU Myths

What was the story behind the kissing rock? Who was the lady in red? A lot of myths circulated campus, but what were the real stories?

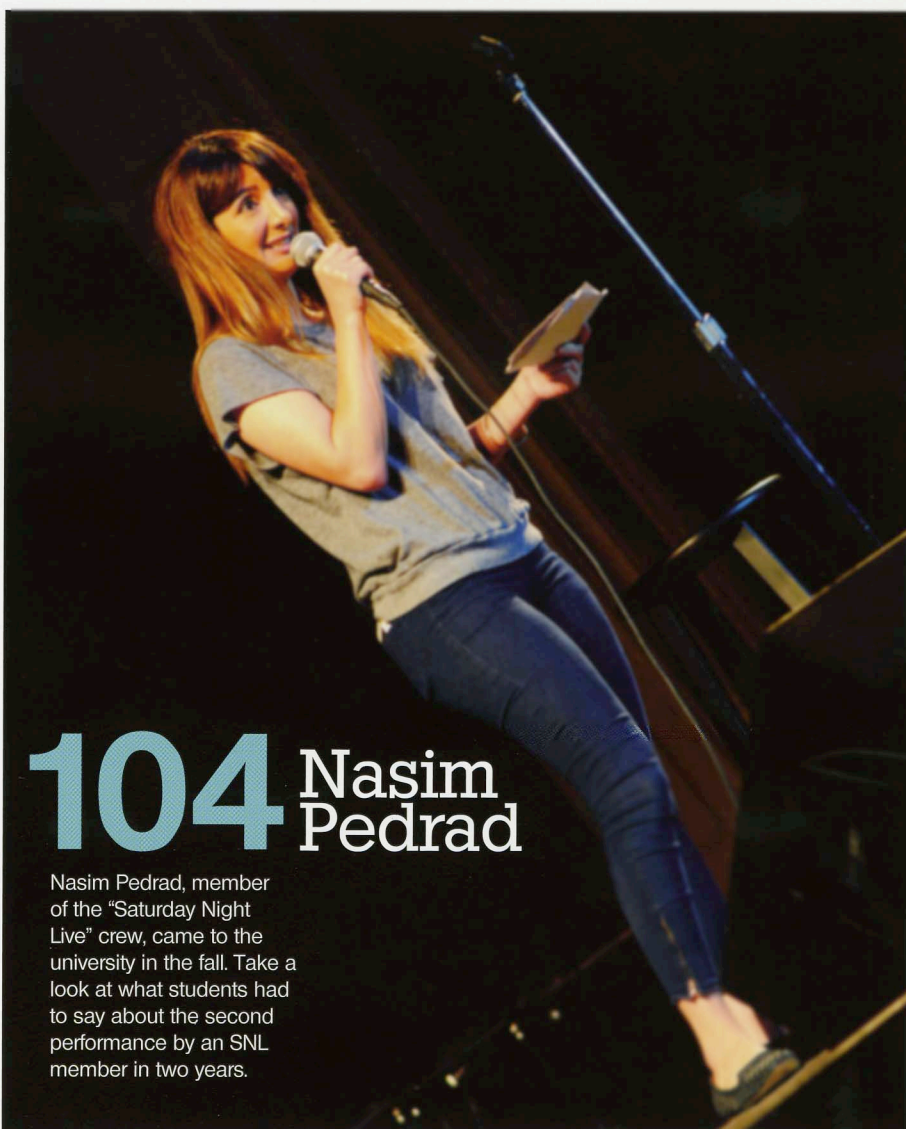
Juggler	102
Sammy Adams	110
Speech Team	112
Professor and Malaria	114
TV Show Fads	118
Concert Production Class	120
Operation Santa Claus	124
Mark Bradley Music	128
Engineering Class	130
UREC Trips	132
Student Taught Classes	134
Senior Recitals: Instrumentals	136
Senior Recitals: Vocal	138
Nicaragua Spring Break Trip	140



116

MRDs go to Macy's Parade

The MRD's were invited back to the Macy's Day Parade for the fifth time. But this year, they got to lead the parade through New York City.



104 Nasim Pedrad

Nasim Pedrad, member of the "Saturday Night Live" crew, came to the university in the fall. Take a look at what students had to say about the second performance by an SNL member in two years.



122

Bill Clinton

As the Virginia primary election got closer, the university had the opportunity to see candidate for governor, Terry McAuliffe, accompanied by former president Bill Clinton. Read about their visit and students' reactions.



106

Humans of Madison

Griffin Harrington was inspired by photography blogs like Humans of New York to start his own blog about students at the university. He used three adjectives and a quote from the student to accompany the photograph on the Humans of Madison Facebook page.



108

JMU Crushes

It was that guy in your general eduction writing class. It was the girl you saw on the bus. Students wrote in crushes to each other for the popular Facebook page, but how did it begin?



174

Women's Lacrosse

The women's lacrosse team practiced extra hard during their 2013-2014 season and had plans to make it to the CAA's. See how they did and how their hard work paid off.



146

Love & Theft

Love & Theft, a popular country duo, made connections with students at their concert at Wilson Hall in February. Students were eager to see the band, but couldn't get too close; find out why here.



148

New Football Coach Withers

New head football coach, Everett Withers, planned to turn the football program around. What were his plans for the future?



142

Weddings and Engagements

Young dukes weren't afraid to put a ring on it and commit themselves to another person for the rest of their lives. Learn how they got together and how they planned to stay together.

- 144 Digital Learning Class
- 152 JMU Legacies & Traditions
- 154 Through Your Lens
- 162 **SPORTS**
- 164 Men's Tennis
- 166 Women's Tennis
- 168 Baseball
- 170 Softball
- 172 Track & Field
- 176 Field Hockey
- 178 Club Frisbees
- 180 Cross Country
- 182 Bangra
- 184 Sports Profiles
- 186 Archery
- 188 Volleyball



150

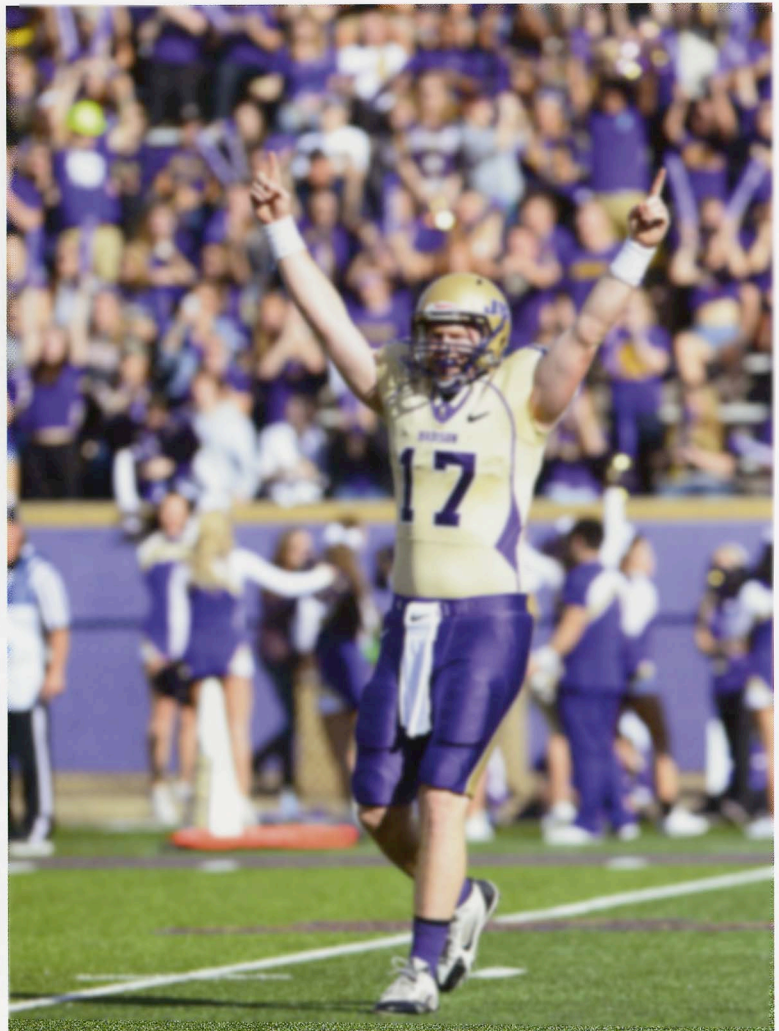
Rocktown Roller Librarian

Librarian Paula Kiser didn't just work at Carrier Library. She was a member of Harrisonburg's roller derby team, the Rocktown Rollers.



214 Women's Basketball

Women's basketball dominated on the court and left no doubts in their competitor's minds that they were the real deal.



194 Football

The football team broke Homecoming records and continued to captivate their fans. See how they did in the 2013-2014 season.

Men's Golf	190
Women's Golf	192
Cheerleading	196
Women's Rugby	198
Boarderline Club	200
Ski Club	202
Crew	204
Men's Soccer	206
Women's Soccer	208
Men's Basketball	212
Swim & Dive	216
Dodgeball	218
Swing Dance	220

ACADEMICS 222

College of Arts & Letters	224
College of Business	236
College of Education	246
College of Health & Behavioral Studies	252
College of Integrated Science & Technology	264
College of Science & Mathematics	268
Robotics	273
College of Visual & Performing Arts	274
Underclassmen	280



Club Paintball

Spyridon Chakalos continued to be passionate about paintball and strove to bring back Club Paintball. Was he successful? Read about it here.

78



258 Therapy Dog

Meet Francis, Varner House's resident therapy dog. Francis worked with students at the counseling center to relieve anxiety and make sessions with their counselors more comfortable.

Nuance 234

The university's highly competitive wintergaurd team, Nuance, traveled the country competing at regional, state and national levels, as well as performing short dance pieces rooted in story telling.

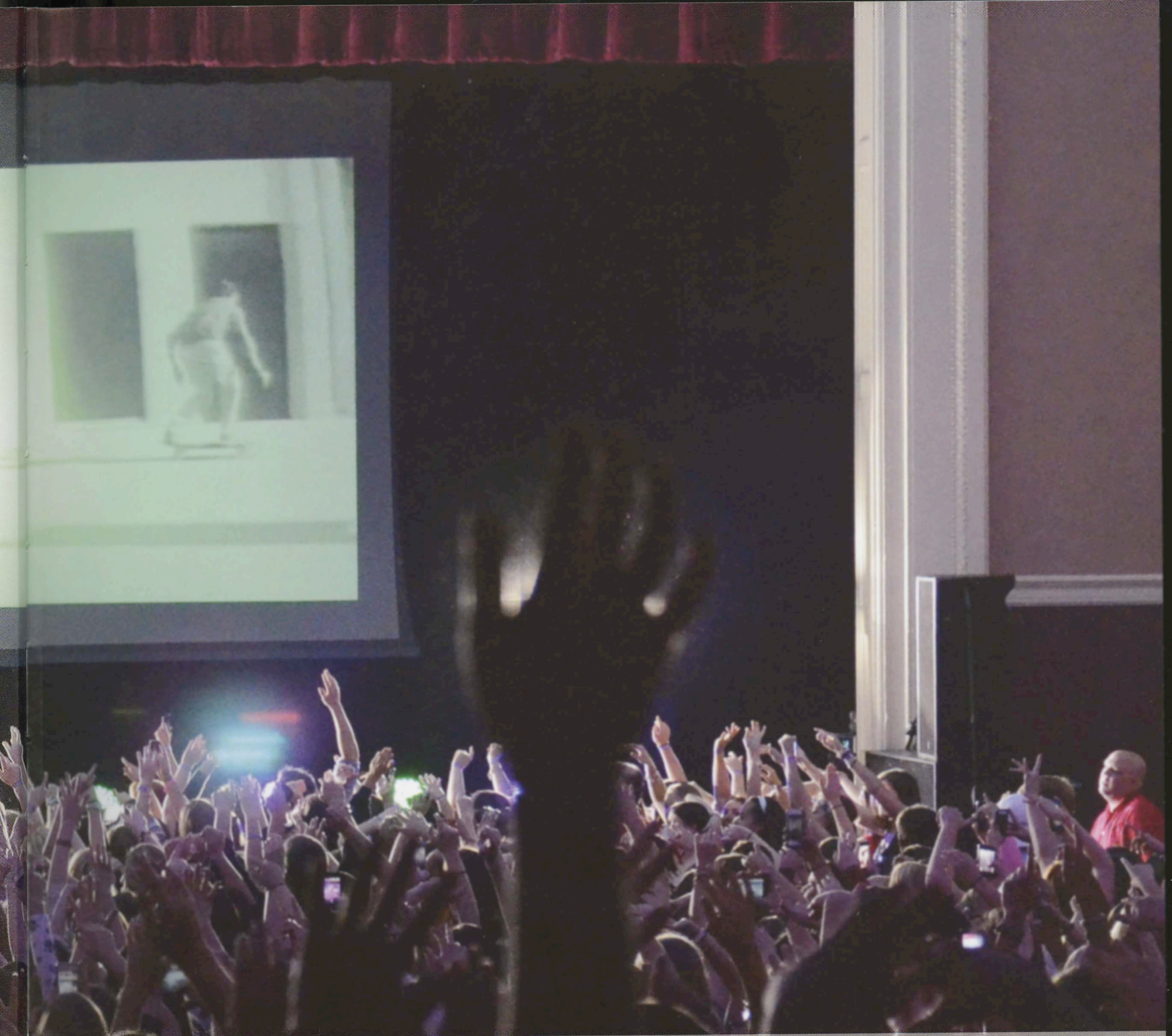


Butoh

This intense Japanese dance required dancers to embody an element or object and allow their bodies to react as though they were that object. Ours was the only university in the country to put on a Butoh showcase.

276





features

FUN before finals

10,000 students cram Festival Lawn
for music, games and food



Shwayze performs "Buzzin'"
at Madipalooza. Many
students thought he was
the highlight of the day.

On Saturday, April 13, members of the Harrisonburg and James Madison University community gathered on the Festival Lawn to celebrate Madipalooza: a day of music, games, food and fun.

While winter felt endless, the breezy and sunny afternoon amped up the crowd and sparked activity during one of the busiest Saturdays on campus.

The star of the show was rap artist Shwayze, who even stopped to mingle with the crowd.

"Meeting Shwayze was definitely my favorite part," said junior Chelsea Wilkins. "He was just walking around the Festival Lawn to talk to people who were there early. He was so down-to-earth and so excited to be at JMU to perform."

Other students reveled in the mild

April weather and fun environment.

"Madipalooza was great," said sophomore Adam Miner. "There were so many different fun activities, good food, prizes, a spirited atmosphere and kickin' bands."

While Shwayze may have been the main event for some, those who were not into rap music had plenty of other activities that they could enjoy. This year featured several inflatables, a mechanical bull, a rock wall and a photo booth.

"Shwayze's performance was the highlight of the event but I also enjoyed the other performances, the food and the blow-up obstacle races," said junior Johannah Miller. "It was a beautiful day that I got to spend with friends and I look forward to the next one."

As the third consecutive

year of Madipalooza, students came expecting another year of innovation, fun and local community traditions. Many students agreed that Madipalooza was an event that annually upheld all of those expectations.

The uniqueness of Madipalooza would continue to bring smiles and laughs, and satiate students' need for some end-of-the-year fun.

WORDS Julie Hirschhorn
PHOTOS Rebecca Sullivan
DESIGN Alison Miles



Students take a break from the blow-up obstacle courses, mechanical bull and rock wall to watch Shwayze. Shwayze performed "Corona and Lime," "Buzzin'" and "Love is Overrated."

Ella Mae Bowen, a country music newcomer, opens the show. Audience members went crazy for the 17-year-old's powerful voice and honest lyrics.

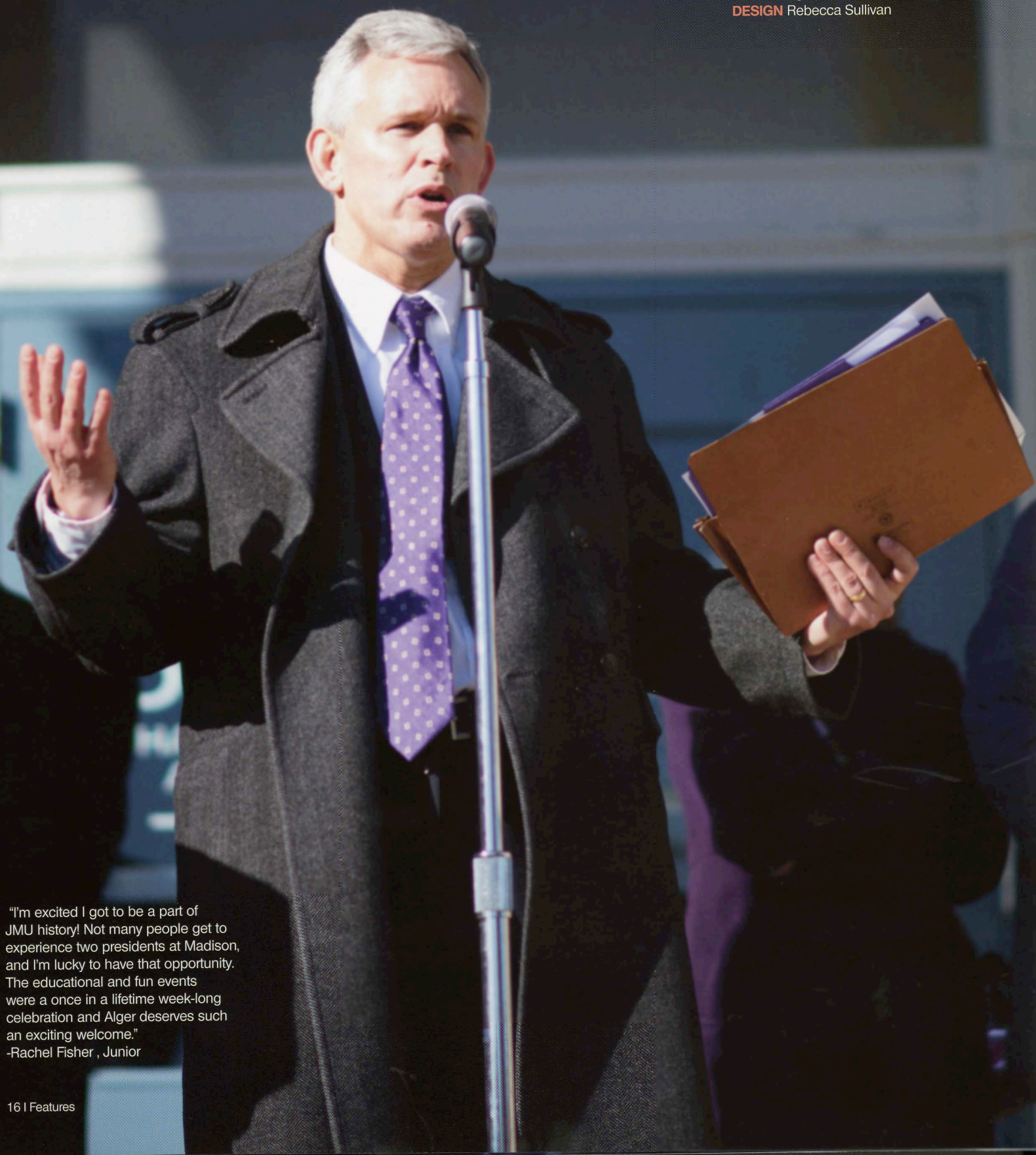
NEW beginnings

Jonathan R. Alger becomes sixth president

WORDS Claire Fogarty

PHOTOS JMU Photography Services

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



"I'm excited I got to be a part of JMU history! Not many people get to experience two presidents at Madison, and I'm lucky to have that opportunity. The educational and fun events were a once in a lifetime week-long celebration and Alger deserves such an exciting welcome."

-Rachel Fisher, Junior

President Alger answers questions during his presidential interview. "Witnessing such a monumental event in JMU's history is an experience I will never forget. It is such an amazing time to be a JMU student and see the entire JMU community come together. The Student Inaugural Ball was a blast, and the actual inauguration was so cool to witness. Not to mention, I'm super excited for the fireworks on the Quad tonight!"

-Lauren Holder, Sophomore



President Alger talks to a colleague during his trip to Montpelier.

"The week has provided a unique opportunity for JMU students and faculty to come together. From the ice-cream social to the ball and Madison Fest, the Duke spirit of this community makes me realize why I chose Madison."

-Taylor Vollman, Sophomore



President Alger strolls with his wife and daughter on the presidential walk through campus. "I think getting a new president at JMU has been great! I got to meet President Alger during the 2012 orientation and I know he is going to do great things for this university. I think it gives us a fresh start from SpringFest in 2010. It shows we can be an engaged university that works hard and gives back to the Harrisonburg community. I agree that he is a great listener because I got to be a part of it at the Leadership Conference. President Alger will be a great leader at JMU and help it continue to grow."

-Mallory Knapp, Senior



college HUMOR

Comedian
returns for first
Funny Freakin'
Friday of the year

t

hundreds of students packed into Taylor Down Under for the first Funny Freakin' Friday of the year on September 6 to see amateur comedian Adam Mamawala.

The University Program Board brought Mamawala back after his successful stint of opening for Erik Griffin in spring 2013.

"Since he established himself here before it helped when we brought him back," said junior Maria Buitrago, the public relations manager for UPB. "It was one of the most successful Funny Freakin' Fridays. It was pretty packed and everyone said he was really funny and they had a good time."

A New Jersey native and award-winning comedian, Mamawala opened for the likes of Joel McHale and performed at a slew of other universities across the nation.

At just 24, Mamawala connected with the student audience by tailoring his material and speaking about relationships, college life and more controversial topics such as race.

"He was really great, very funny," said senior Paige Ober. "I liked that his humor wasn't vulgar."

Mamawala's easy-going personality and sense of humor were another reason that UPB chose to bring him back.

"He was just a really nice guy," said Buitrago. "Everyone on the committee that worked with him said they went to Klines with him afterward."



Mamawala jokes about college life during his performance. After a successful show in spring 2013, UPB brought him back to start Funny Freakin' Fridays.

WORDS Haley Lambert
PHOTOS Julian Williams
DESIGN Lauren Stearns

LAUGHAHOLICS

"Workaholics" star performs in Wilson Auditorium

More than 300 students crammed into Wilson Hall's auditorium, Thursday, March 21, to watch actor and stand-up comedian Erik Griffin rock the stage with his quintessential humor-intelligent observations hidden behind sexual innuendos and occasional obscenity.

Griffin was best known for his role as Montez Walker in Comedy Central's "Workaholics." He came to James Madison University as part of the University Program Board's spring programming and was one of the most successful acts the organization brought to the school in the past year.

"We weren't expecting it to do as well as it did since it was so close to Macklemore tickets going on sale," said senior UPB member Sarah Hashnain. "But it did really well. He was so funny!"


And the audience seemed to agree.

"He kind of stepped over the line and probably offended some people," said senior Marissa Estera. "But I think that's part of what made it so funny because he did go there and made those jokes."

While some students weren't fans of Griffin's in-your-face vulgarity, that's exactly why other students loved him. As the show let out, approximately 100 students crowded in Wilson's tiny entranceway, chattering excitedly and recanting their favorite parts of Griffin's performance as they waited in line for a meet and greet.

They didn't have to wait long. Just minutes after his performance, Griffin made his way through the crowd to his merchandise table, stopping occasionally to poke fun at some students and clasp shoulders affectionately.

"I thought it was cool that he came out and talked to people," said senior Jyoti Gupta. "It made him seem more personable."



Griffin pushes boundaries to make students laugh. Fans of his "Workaholics" character, Montez, were fans of his edgy sense of humor.

WORDS Haley Lambert
PHOTO Julian Williams
DESIGN Lauren Stearns



welcome to

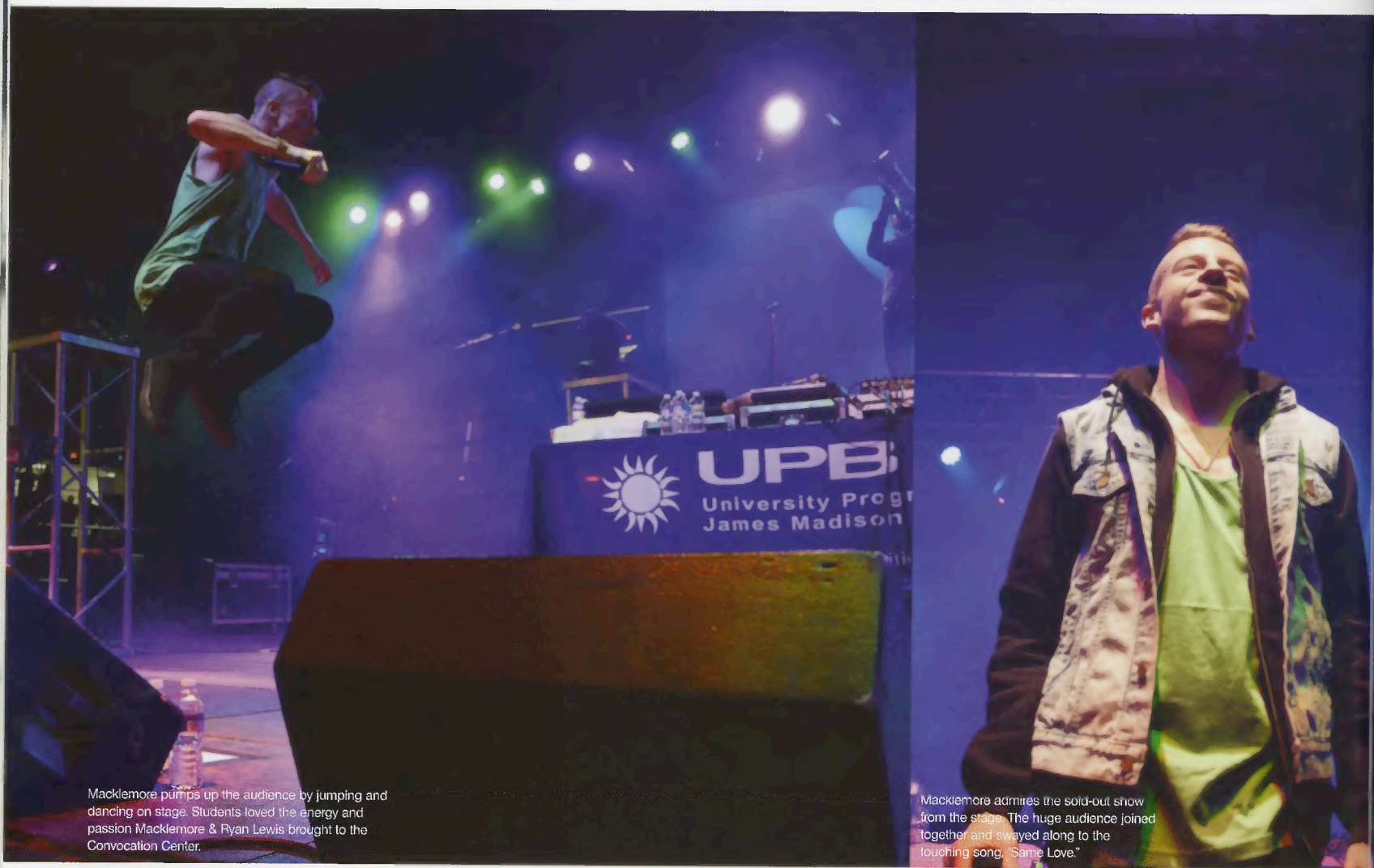
THE HEIST

MACKLEMORE & RYAN LEWIS
BECOME THE SECOND SOLDOUT
CONVOCAION CONCERT IN 20 YEARS.

WORDS Paige Lobuts

PHOTOS Rebecca Sullivan and Julian Williams

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



Macklemore pumps up the audience by jumping and dancing on stage. Students loved the energy and passion Macklemore & Ryan Lewis brought to the Convocation Center.

Macklemore admires the sold-out show from the stage. The huge audience joined together and swayed along to the touching song, "Same Love."

On April 8, students packed the Convocation Center for a soldout show. Live energy filled the rooms, hands flew into the air and students jumped up and down and stood on seats as music pulsed through the floor. The crowd was eager and more than ready to see breakthrough sensations Macklemore & Ryan Lewis.

The minute Macklemore walked on stage, the crowd's energy escalated. As the fans jumped and banged on chairs, Macklemore & Ryan Lewis began the night with one of their widely recognized hits, "Ten Thousand Hours."

Throughout the concert, the duo performed songs off their latest album, "The Heist," and songs from their first featured albums, "The VS. EP" and "The Unplanned Mixtape."

Between songs, Macklemore was intent on connecting with the audience by telling stories, mentioning the meanings of his songs and interacting with the audience. At one point he even danced around in a student's fur coat.

"We were banging on the seats, Macklemore acknowledged JMU as the craziest college town and we were able to touch his hand," said sophomore Mary Hull.

The crowd wasn't crazy the entire time, however. When Macklemore introduced his fourth

single, "Same Love," the wild energy subsided. Students came together for a moving performance, swaying back and forth and singing along with the song's meaningful lyrics.

"Seeing people like this gives me faith and hope for equality," said Macklemore.

Macklemore & Ryan Lewis performed "Thrift Shop," sending the audience into a frenzy of cheers and applause.

"I'm going to say it now, craziest college town of 2013," said Macklemore as he finished his final encore. "Craziest college town in the country!"

As everything turned down in the Convocation Center, the crowd was still jumping around, singing lyrics from the songs, dancing and reliving the experience.

"He's a down-to-earth guy, he values what music is and he connected with the audience," said senior Taylor Henshaw.

Macklemore & Ryan Lewis didn't just perform for the audience in the Convocation Center, instead, they captured the essence of true performers and made it a memorable night for all.

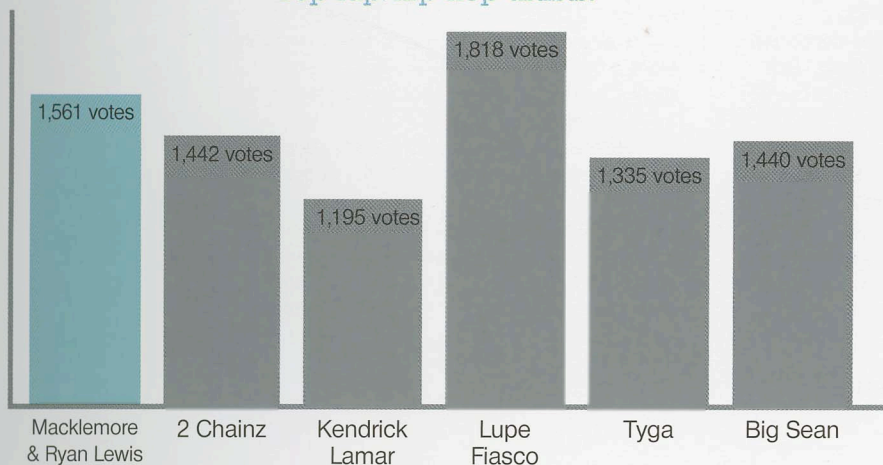


Macklemore & Ryan Lewis perform for a soldout crowd of 3,200 students. Since performing at JMU, the duo has gone on to win three Video Music Awards and perform on other award shows.

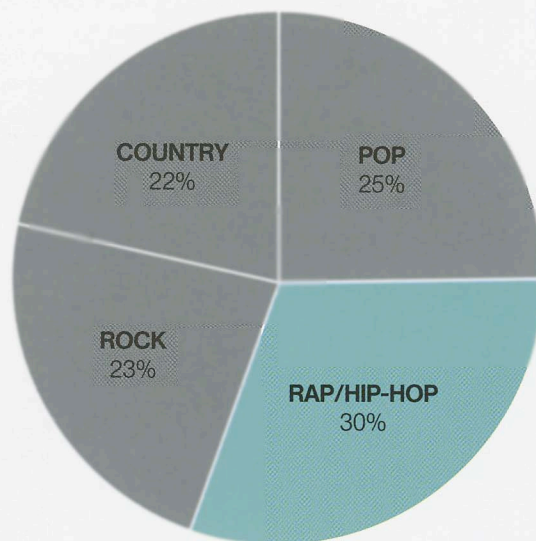
Survey says...

Macklemore & Ryan Lewis were chosen to perform after the University Program Board conducted open surveys. The first survey highlighted what genre would perform, and the second focused on what artist would perform for the spring concert in the Convocation Center. "Rap and Hip-Hop have the best sales for Convo," said senior Public Relations Director of UPB Elizabeth Rea.

Top rap/hip-hop artists:



What genre would you prefer to see?





The graduating class of 2013 tosses their caps in the air in celebration. This class was the first class to graduate under the university's sixth president, Jonathon R. Alger.



dream BIG

Alger says goodbye to his first graduating class

As the Convocation Center turned from a room of empty chairs into a sea of seniors in purple gowns glowing with pride, the energy at the Senior Commencement ceremony became overwhelming and the excitement was palpable.

"This class will always be very special to me, as this is my first class," said President Jonathan R. Alger. "I'm just a freshman this year."

From the first time students, faculty and visitors stepped onto the James Madison University campus the friendly nature of the community was apparent. There was always a willing hand to hold the door open with a smile.

Alger expressed how welcomed the campus's spirit made him feel during his first year at JMU.

"I have seen students hold the doors open from halfway across the Quad. You are all so nice," said Alger. "However, I want to reflect a bit on figurative doors."

Alger continued to remind the graduating class of the doors that were opened for them by professors who encouraged them, the student organizations that gave them opportunities to grow outside of the classroom and the friendships and understanding that made the Madison experience an unforgettable one.

Graduation wasn't an achievement that could be reached alone, but it wasn't an achievement that could be reached without personal ambition or self-determination, either.

President Alger reminded the seniors that the doors of JMU were always open to them.

"Don't forget when you leave, why you came," said Alger.

The graduating class of 2013 was the beginning of new traditions. They were the first to graduate under Alger, and it was the first commencement ceremony that was not opened to parents.

"It's very special to me. You only get to be a senior once," said 2013 graduate Andrew Martin.

Matthew Wisniewski, a 2013 graduate gave the student address at the commencement ceremony.

"Those were the best four years of our lives. Or were they?" said Wisniewski. "Life is out there waiting for us. The best years of our life aren't behind us, they are in front of us."

Mike Rayburn, alumnus and guest speaker, solidified that point in his convocation address.

"Be a possibility thinker. See possibility where others don't," said Rayburn. Here's a test to see if you have fulfilled your purpose in life: If you're alive, you haven't."

Alger had two words of wisdom to leave with the graduating class of 2013:

"Dream Big!"

WORDS Angela Williams
PHOTOS JMU Photography Services
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

BIKE FOR *Life*

Senior devotes summer to raising awareness

WORDS Claire Fogarty

PHOTOS Matthew Schmachtenberg and courtesy of Navid Attayan

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



Attayan stops to visit child cancer patients on his seven-week journey. At each hospital, he handed out ProJEKT 3000 wristbands and supplied hope to the families.



Attayan hugs a child cancer patient during a hospital visit. Upon his return to Harrisonburg he planned to continue raising awareness for pediatric cancer.





Attayan rides down a country road. During his journey, he stopped in many towns and impacted many individuals' lives along his way.

Fifteenth-year senior Navid Attayan set out on his cross-country bike trip on May 25 with one intention: to raise awareness about pediatric cancer. But by July 12, 48 days and 3,058 miles later, he realized the trip became something else entirely.

"I set out on the journey expecting adventure, to do good and give people hope. But during it, it became somewhat about me," said Attayan. "I've never been so focused in my entire life."

And focus was essential to Attayan's journey, especially since each of the seven states he traveled through forced him to overcome a different challenge. Virginia had the most hills, Arizona was the hottest and Kansas had the worst head winds and storms.

Yet, despite all the physical challenges, Attayan believed the mental challenges were much worse.

"It was like I was being tested every single day," said Attayan. "Every day

was something new, and I never knew what to expect."

By the end of his trip, Attayan had met countless patients and visited a total of 19 hospitals and treatment centers. At each stop, he went door-to-door visiting the children and their families, handing out ProJeKT 3000 wristbands, spreading hope and talking to doctors and nurses.

"One thing I realized is that cancer doesn't just affect the child, it affects the whole family," said Attayan. "Tears would come running down [the families'] eyes when they saw me. These [patients] are in the hospitals all the time, and not just the kids, their entire family, too. I didn't think what I was doing was anything extraordinary. I didn't expect what I saw."

Attayan's goal was to raise more money and awareness. In total, he raised approximately \$12,500, all of which was donated to cancer research.


After arriving in San Diego, he

doubled his number of followers on Facebook, intending to use the site for more than just socializing.

"I'm turning the [Facebook] page into more of an awareness campaign," said Attayan. "I'm taking the role of an advocate and using the fan base to drive serious awareness."

Aside from being an advocate, Attayan prepared for his next phase of the project: biking the circumference of the moon, a total of 6,784 miles in 365 days. On average, each day he planned to bike about 20 miles, which he wanted to symbolize the fight cancer patients have to endure each and every day.

"My point is even if cancer isn't their cause, that's OK. I want to inspire others to make their own projects to try to do good in any way they can," said Attayan. "If everyone did his or her own little part, the world would be better."



NEVER have i EVER

Students tell their deepest secrets

WORDS & PHOTOS Paige Lobuts & Michelle Criqui

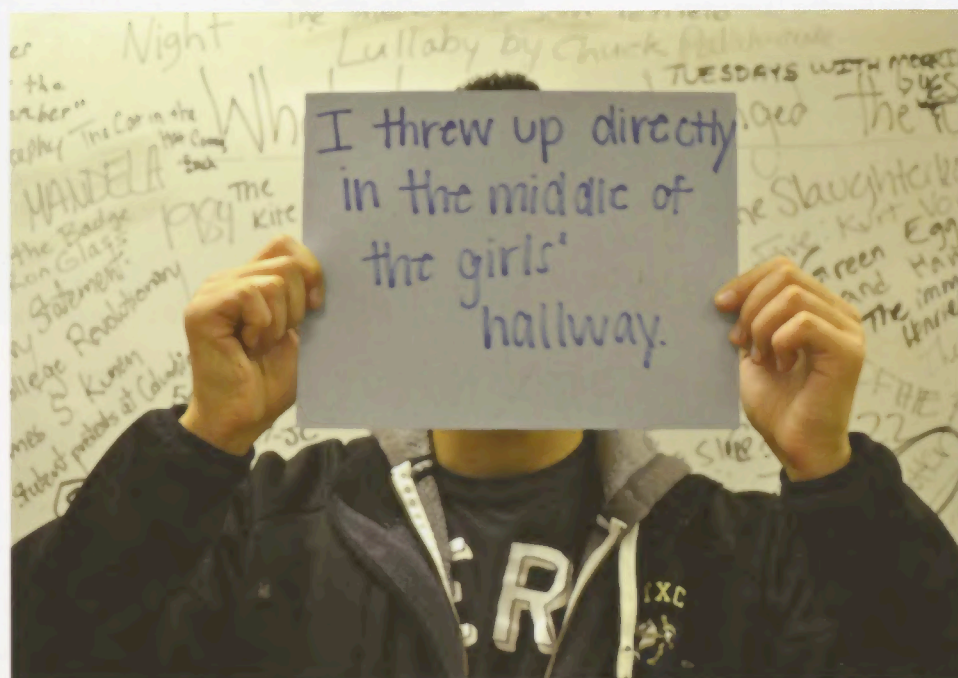
DESIGN Elizabeth Wertz

“

When I was a freshman, I came back from a party, and I was hanging out with my friend. He was listening to Bob Marley to make me feel better, and all of a sudden I started acting like I was going to be sick. He tried to get me to the bathroom, and I ended up throwing up directly in the middle of the girls' hallway, right in front of the RA's dorm.

— Male, junior

”



“

During FROG week, I got locked out of my dorm and I couldn't get back in. I had to pee really bad, so I peed behind a bush.

— Female, freshman

”

“

I was running to my writing class because it was 15 minutes after my philosophy class. So I'm running up the Godwin steps, and I get all the way to the top, and I just face plant in front of all these people. They started laughing and I just jump up like nothing is wrong, and I looked down at my hands and they were bleeding. I kept telling myself to get to class, and when I got there and sat down, I saw that my knees were bleeding through my pants.

— Female, sophomore

”



“

When I was a freshman, I got arrested and when I woke up in the cell, I realized I had thrown up on myself, peed and pooped myself, and the cops weren't giving me any attention to tell me where I was. I thought they would definitely tell me if I was hearing impaired. So I pretended to be deaf because my father is hearing impaired, so I know how to do sign language and a deaf accent. I convinced the officers I was indeed hearing impaired. Until after the shower, they provided me with some clothes to wear, I sobered up enough to realize I couldn't keep that ploy up.

— Male, senior

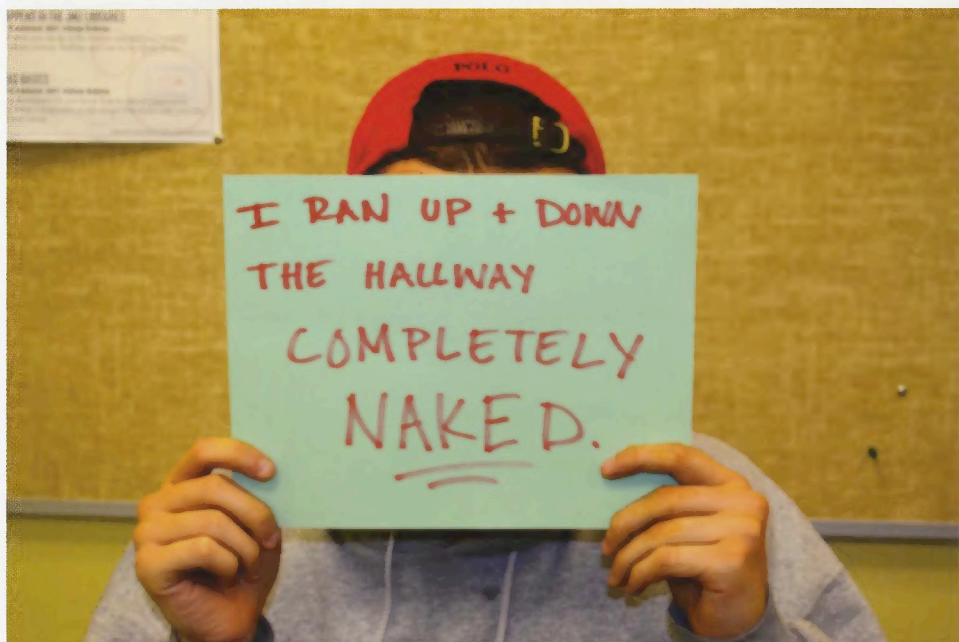
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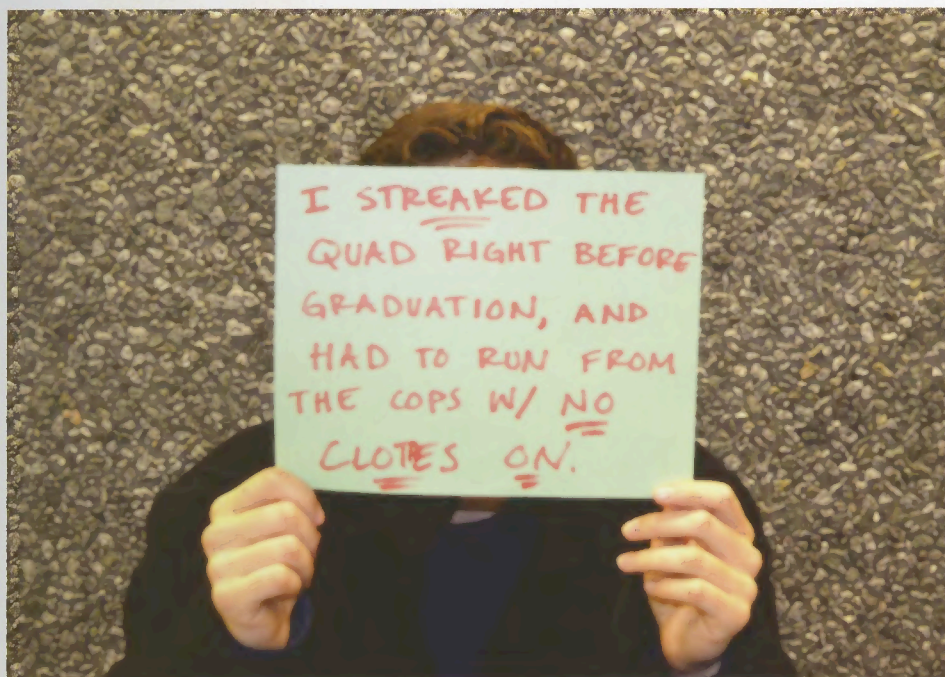
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I came home from a party, and decided to run up and down the hallways completely naked... Thought it was funny, but I got into a little bit of trouble. Stuff happens.

— Male, junior

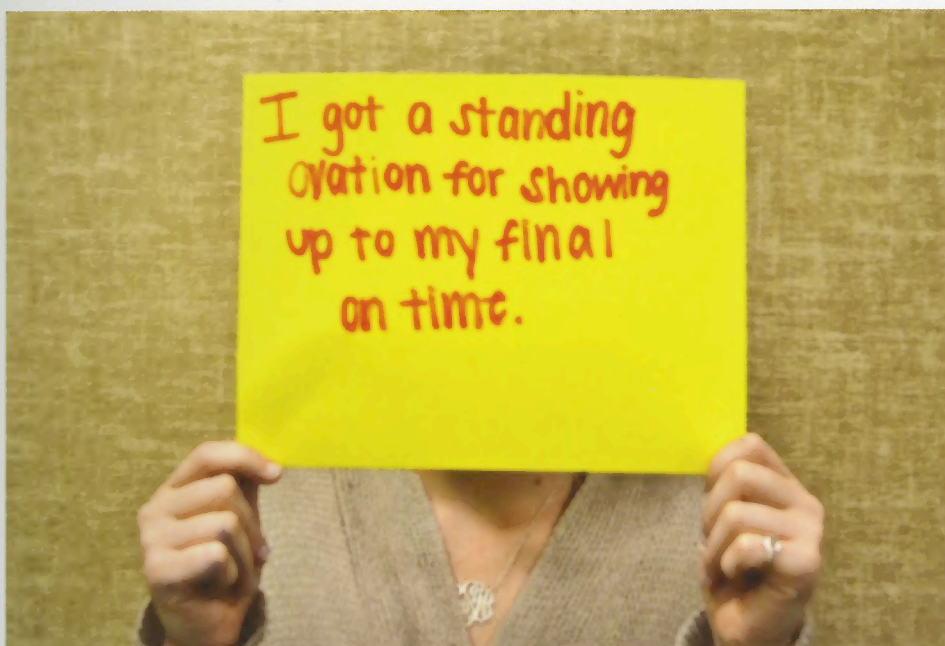
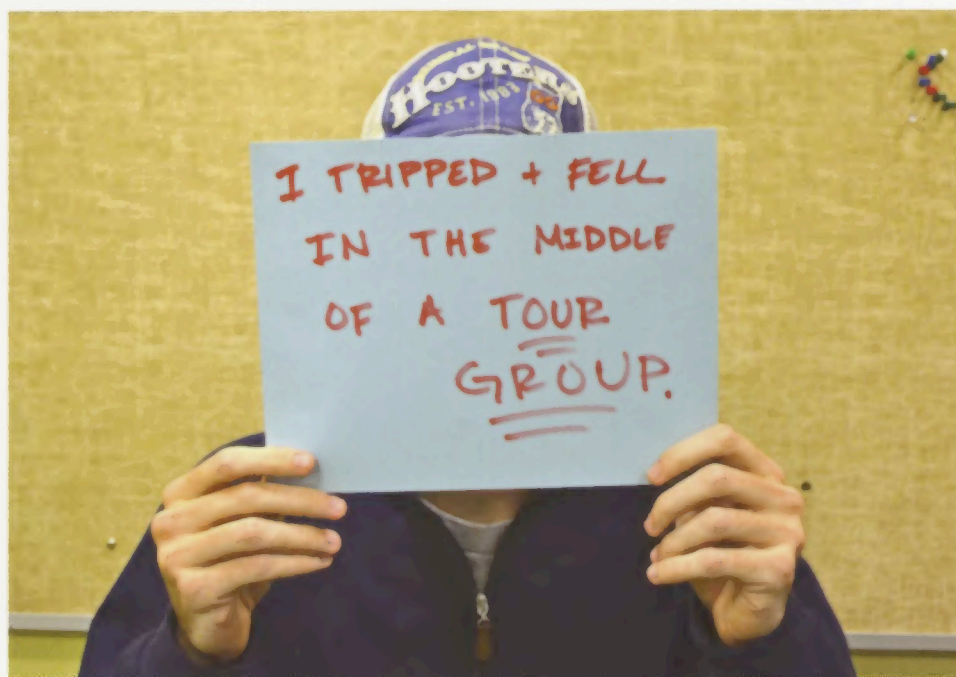
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“ Freshman year, I streaked the Quad right before graduation and a cop caught me and I had to run away with no clothes on.
– Male, junior ”

“ Last year when I was a junior, I was walking up the steps outside of the mail room to go to the Commons, and I tripped and fell in the middle of a tour group. All of the dads of the tour group went to stop and help me up, but I refused any help. I got up and I wanted to let them know that this was just a one-time thing, and I was not usually that shambly. But instead, I yelled 'I'M A JUNIOR!' and then I walked out the door without saying anything else.
– Male, senior ”



“ So I used to go to class late every day, about 10 minutes late, and the professor never really said anything about it because I had an A in the class. On the last day when I had the final exam, I showed up on time and received a standing ovation, and I was so bewildered.
– Female, senior ”

A TALE OF TWO *writers*

Student co-authors published novel

Not everyone could say that they were a published author. Many wrote away on blogs, submitted essays to major magazines and newspapers, or even tried to pull an E.L. James, writing spin-offs in the hope of catching a publisher's eye.

However, senior Christopher Justis didn't have to do any of that. He became a published author this past summer when his novel, "Twilight of an Empire," was published in July.

The science fiction novel combined current day issues with a fantasy world.

"It is about five main characters who are all from different backgrounds and socioeconomic levels and how all of their paths converge when their land, Gwyneran, is taken over by a cult-like force named the Azarians," said Justis.

Justis wrote the novel with a close friend, Ian LeViness, who attended Roanoke College.

"He came up with the framework of the book and developed the land and all of the cities while I worked on the different characters and progressing the story along," said Justis.

While many students may have viewed

reading and writing as a chore, especially in school, Justis' love for literature and writing came from his long-time love of fantasy books.

"I was always fascinated on how they came up with entirely new worlds to frame stories in," said Justis. "Ian and I both started writing in high school after creative writing courses and writing for our school newspapers. At JMU, I minored in creative writing and my professor was very helpful in helping me along the way in constructing the story."

Like many other well-known authors, Justis had a muse to credit for sparking his creativity.

"I, as well as Ian, were both originally inspired by the greatest fantasy story ever written: 'Lord of the Rings,'" said Justis. "It may sound cliché, but Tolkien started the fantasy series and after reading that, I wanted to see if I could do it as well."

Justis used music to help inspire chapters and scenes in the book.

"I listen to a lot of classic rock music as I write, and I found that doing so inspired a lot of scenes throughout the book," said Justis.

The budding author also liked to mirror current social issues in his writing. This was a trademark of many well-known authors, as it

gave the reader a take on what could be.

"I am very into politics, so I like to frame issues that are happening in our society in a fantasy setting, which motivates me as well," said Justis.

According to Justis, determination and motivation were the keys to success.

"We had been working on this book for over five years," said Justis. "We finally found a way to get our story heard."

As far as future novels go, Justis said that he is dedicated to writing and would continue to pen novels as long as he had a source of inspiration and a story to tell.

As for other writers who have a dream of getting published, Justis gave some advice.

"Just keep writing. Everyone will go through writer's block and everyone will get rejected every once and a while, but that doesn't mean your story shouldn't be told."

WORDS Julie Hirschhorn

PHOTO Brian Prescott

DESIGN Abigail Walter



BALANCING ACT

Student rides solo

On any given day, bikes flew up and down the hills of campus. However, for at least one student, one wheel was better than two.

For freshman Elijah Roberts, a unicycle was his preferred method of transportation. It all started during a family road trip.

"We stopped in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, and we were just kind of walking around and these two kids rode past me on unicycles," said Roberts.

This encounter prompted him to buy a unicycle of his own when he returned home.

With no handlebars, he learned to ride by extending his arms out in his hallway at home. A few holes in the drywall later, he was able to ride tall and short unicycles.

Roberts believed that having a unicycle helped him meet more people at the university. As a member of the Marching Royal Dukes, he met another student in the band who also rode. He hoped to start a unicycle club in the future with the other students he knew who rode unicycles.

WORDS Taylor Vollman

PHOTOS Emily MacLeish

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



As Roberts cycled around campus on any given day, he was greeted by a familiar set of questions:

"CAN YOU RIDE THAT UP A HILL?"

"CAN YOU RIDE THAT DOWN A HILL?"

"IS THAT HARD?"

"HOW DO YOU DO THAT?"

Lyrics to LESSON PLANS

Music industry professor
chronicles experience in
the business

WORDS Brittany Maruca
PHOTO Griffin Harrington
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



When a child plunked away at the keys of a piano, sending simple melodies throughout the house, the parents might have simply seen a hobby.

However, for music industry professor Joseph Taylor, learning to play the piano from his mother at just five years old helped him discover something much greater than a hobby: a profound love of music.

Neither Taylor nor his parents could foresee that a child's passion would transform into a successful, diverse career in the music industry.

Music permeated throughout Taylor's childhood. Growing up, he was surrounded by pop music and genre-changing artists like The Beatles. In 1974, Taylor's best friend, Jim, asked him to be in a band, Undercover, and his days in

the music industry began.

"I was able to see past my own little corner of the world," said Taylor.

Though Undercover traveled around the country and went through many transformations, the love of music shared by Taylor and his best friend remained. For three to four years, they played music, wrote songs and by 1982, got their first record deal with a small label in Southern California.

"Everything was gradual," said Taylor. "We paid our dues."

According to Taylor, the band lifestyle was an awesome one, but doing 250 shows a year eventually took its toll. Taylor began to involve himself in other aspects of the business.

He and his friend started a record label that included the first Christian group to incorporate rap and punk rock, the Grammy-nominated gospel group, Anointed.

"You have to find what it is you want to do in life and be true to that," said Taylor.

Taylor felt empowered and humbled that he could have an impact on his students' lives. As a professor, he shared his experiences and strove to convey the lessons he had picked up throughout his journey.

"Being an artist gives you a sense of courage to speak your own truth, and be true to it."



Jacob Williams and Lisa Fox, as Hunter and Violet, film a scene in Wilson Auditorium. "Steps" filmed around campus, in Harrisonburg and in Boston.

STEPS TOWARD Success

Senior makes feature-length film

Being the writer, director and main character in his full-length movie, "Steps," was difficult, but senior Jacob Williams was committed to his dream. The film centered around Hunter Allen, a film student, who was surrounded by sudden fame but trapped in a life of alcohol addiction and toxic friends. However, when Hunter met free-spirited Violet she helped him regain his passion for videography and life.

Williams came up with the idea for the film after returning from a media arts and design trip in Los Angeles. Before the trip he viewed writing a movie as an unattainable goal, but his experiences in L.A. helped him realize that real people wrote scripts for a living, and that it was possible for him to do as well. Williams started writing "Steps" as soon as he returned.

Williams described writing the script as building a skyscraper without a blueprint. He said you just have to work with it. It was a learning process that he greatly enjoyed and resulted in fantasy becoming reality.

"We try to chase perfection but we can never get to it. We just have to start," said Williams.

Filming began in April 2013. The main characters were played by Williams and his good friend, senior Lisa Fox. They both agreed that the amount of time and effort that was required for the success of the film meant that motivation was essential.

Fox stated that was difficult to get up at 5 a.m. to film, but she and the rest of the crew did it because they realized how important the film was to Williams. This compassion for one another was what created a great atmosphere for the film.

The difficulties of having a student-produced movie included lack of resources and time, but were solved by strong relationships of the cast and crew, as well as a shared admiration for Williams and his drive.

Williams' hope for the movie and its production was to give others an outlet. By incorporating what each cast and crew member felt most passionate about, Williams was able to bring out the best in everyone involved, including himself.

"If you follow your heart you'll find yourself and be exactly where you're supposed to be," said Williams.

WORDS Emily MacLeish

PHOTO Riley Hanlon

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



The In8 symbol replaces the eighth roman numeral on the sundial. Students passed by the symbol everyday on their way to class, not realizing that it was there or knowing what it meant.



MADISON FOREVER

Secret society honors stand-out Dukes

Many students looked down on their walk past the Quad to see the beautiful sundial that lay steps away from the Centennial Fountain, but how many knew where it came from?

Rumors abounded that it was donated by a secret society. If students wanted proof, they didn't have to look far. The eighth plate on the dial did not display a roman numeral, but an infinity symbol instead. It was the symbol of the secret organization that donated the dial, In8.

In8 existed to recognize individuals making a difference at James Madison University and only had eight members at a time. No one knew how members were chosen, who they were or how they were initiated. When an outstanding member of the JMU community was recognized by the organization, In8 contacted the individual, either by email or with a note, and thanked them for all the good things they had done.

In8 also discretely passed three journals around campus every year. The journals were originally given to students whom the group believed had a story to tell. The students wrote in the journal and then passed it on to another student who they thought was deserving to write in it.

In September 2013, senior Marybeth Fox received an email from In8.

"I wasn't sure if it was from them," Fox said. "I didn't know that they did emails, but I talked to someone else who I knew that had been communicated to by them,

and she said that she had been contacted via email as well."

The email thanked her but did not list specific accomplishments that she was being thanked for.

On campus Fox was involved in Young Life and Friends of Rachel. Off campus, she spent her time in Big Brother Big Sisters, Gus Bus and with Spanish-speaking families in the area.

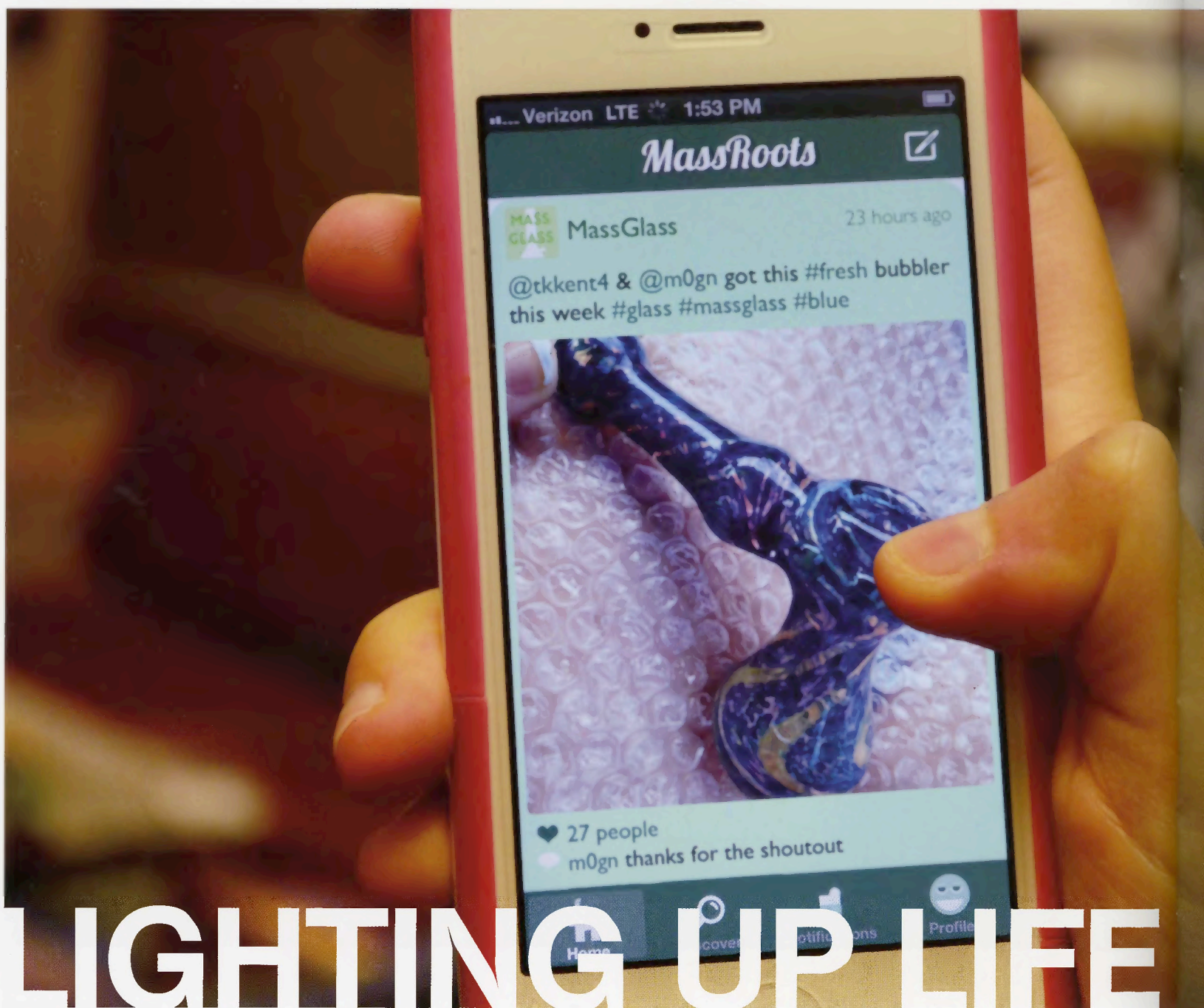
In8 remained secret so that it could be about the people it honored and not draw attention to its members.

Members of the group could reveal themselves after graduation, but could not let anyone know while they were students.

Another mystery, even to former members, was the meaning of the name. It was believed that the number "8" stood for 1908 and the eight members, and that "in" was for infinity. Roughly translated, it meant "Madison forever."

While In8 and its traditions remained secret, the university knew that they were always there looking for good and doing a beautiful thing for the community.

WORDS Savannah Hall
PHOTO Elizabeth Wertz
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



LIGHTING UP LIFE

Student co-develops app about medical marijuana use

One student lived the high life with her medical marijuana “buds.”

Senior Hyler Fortier co-developed a free app called MassRoots: The Medicinal Cannabis Community, launched in July. She and her buds—the app’s users—regularly posted pictures and expanded their cloud to unite the medical cannabis community in one place.

MassRoots was for “really anyone who can appreciate the value” of medical cannabis, said Fortier.

Users regularly posted pictures of their use of medical cannabis and any concerts or events they went to in support of the drug.

The app operated as a mix of Instagram and Twitter. Users could upload pictures, tag their buds in them and use hashtags to make their posts more searchable.

Fortier worked on MassRoots with three other co-developers. Her brother developed and updated the app, and two friends from Virginia Beach worked on the marketing and financials. They hoped to eventually have in-app purchases of medical cannabis.

“I’m not just some pothead who wants to, you know, encourage people to smoke pot. It’s a business decision,” said Fortier.

Fortier’s main role in the development was graphic design. This included designing the brochure they used while seeking investors. They hoped for a \$250,000 investment in their app, and would use it to expand to one million users.

As of early October, the app had more than 7,500 downloads from primarily 18-to-30-year-olds who consumed cannabis regularly.

Users had to be 17 years old to download the app, and only legal, medicinal use was allowed to

be posted. If recreational use was found, users could report it to Fortier and her co-developers, and they would take it down.

Fortier’s co-developer Isaac Dietrich, a 21-year-old from Virginia Beach, decided to start MassRoots because of the demand from their audience.

“There are tens of millions of cannabis consumers who can’t really share pictures about it because they’re afraid their bosses or parents will see and think differently of them,” said Dietrich. “This is an app where people can feel safe and comfortable about themselves and feel safe about sharing an aspect of their lives they wouldn’t normally be able to share.”

MassRoots didn’t have the ability to connect to other social media, such as Facebook, so only other MassRoots users were able to see the posts.

Fortier’s brother, Stewart, took three weeks to develop and write the code for the app. The app had no major problems since its launch.

Fortier looked forward to the future of her app.

“It hasn’t happened yet, but I’m just looking forward to the day when I can introduce myself as the co-founder of MassRoots, and the person is just like ‘I have that!’ or ‘I know what that is!’”

WORDS, PHOTO & DESIGN
Elizabeth Wertz

By the numbers

SOURCE Isaac Dietrich

1

The average user spent 1 hour on the app per week.

2

The app had more than five million profile views, news feed refreshes and searches.

3

The developers estimated that nearly 50 percent of their users were daily users.

4

More than 90 percent of posts by users were directly cannabis-related.

5

MassRoots was the first cannabis social network to hit exponential growth.

IT'S A SMALL WORLD

Everybody knows somebody.

College is all about making connections.
For some students, that meant getting close
to celebrities, athletes and public figures.

WORDS Paige Lobuts
PHOTOS Courtesy of
Elizabeth Kettler, Paige
Lobuts, Kathryn McCallum,
Madison Kashetta
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

Senior Elizabeth Kettler had a connection to singer-songwriter

taylor swift.



Q Where and how did you meet Taylor Swift?

A. My uncle is a best friend of Taylor Swift's parents. They have known each other forever.

What was your initial reaction to meeting her?

A. My family has known Taylor before she became famous. It was so bizarre when I started to hear her songs on the radio or see posters of her in my friends' rooms. She deserves all the success she has had, though.

How did she act toward you?

A. Taylor is an extremely genuine person. Just watching her during meet and greets and how she treats the people she doesn't even know proves that. Every single person who walks into a meet and greet gets a hug from Taylor. Not only will she thank them for coming and for supporting her career, but she'll spend time talking with them. She will also treat the road crew the exact same way she treats a friend of hers. What you see in the media is who Taylor really is.

Do you get treated differently because you know her?

A. A lot of people ask me to get them backstage passes. People I don't even know. I get calls, texts and messages on Facebook about it all the time. Or they'll ask me to give them her personal contact information. It's crazy. All my close friends don't really listen to her music, though, so I never really hear it from them.

Do you still keep in contact with her?

A. My uncle keeps in constant contact with her family. I feel like my uncle knows more about Taylor's personal life than I do. Now that she has a busier schedule, I only see her at her concerts. Before Taylor became super famous she would always be around at family events at my uncle's house. Now, she doesn't come around that often.

Is it true what everyone says about celebrities, they're just normal people? If so, how did she show that to you?

A. I mean, I wouldn't really say Taylor's just a "normal girl." She became extremely successful by the age of 18, and has been through a lot more than I have. But she tries to act as normal as possible when she's around family and friends. Taylor definitely isn't a diva or anything. Being around her, I usually forget that she's one of the most famous people in the world.

Junior Carter Black had a connection to actress

sandra bullock.



Q Where and how did you meet Sandra Bullock?

A. At my aunt's wedding when I was 5 years old. Sandra was a bridesmaid in my aunt's wedding and I was the flower girl.

What was your initial reaction to meeting her?

A. At the time, I didn't understand that she was famous. It wasn't really until "Miss Congeniality" came out that I understood who she was. I told my mom, "Mom, that's Aunt Courtenay's friend!" and my mom responded, "Yeah, that's Sandra Bullock."

How did she act toward you?

A. She's a super sweet woman, very nice and down-to-earth.

Do you still keep in contact with her?

A. My family is in close contact with her, but I haven't seen her since the wedding.

What do your friends say when you tell them you know her?

A. They all think the picture of she and I at the wedding is really cool, and they always ask whether I still have communication with her. Meeting her is kind of my go-to fact if she comes up in conversation about one of her movies.

Junior Hailey Markos had a connection to former NHL goalie

reggie lemelin.



Q Where and how did you meet Reggie Lemelin?

A. We both worked at Turner Hill Golf and Residential Club this past summer.

What was your initial reaction to meeting him?

A. I was a hostess in the Grille and he is the head of new membership, so he walked by the hostess podium on my first official shift and I didn't know who he was. It wasn't until about three weeks later when I was talking to one of my friends who recently got a membership at the club and mentioned that he had met Reggie Lemelin and I said, "I love Reggie! What's so important about him?" and that was when I found out that he was a former NHL goalie, who actually played for my team, the Boston Bruins. It struck me as funny because every day when I walked by his office to clock in, I saw a picture of a Bruins' goalie hanging on his wall and kept saying "Hmm, I wonder who that is, I'll ask him one of these days." Good thing I didn't!

How did he act toward you?

A. He was always very friendly to me. One time I was clearing the table where he and big group of his friends were sitting, and I dropped all the plates in my hand. He teased me just as any friend would. He also remembered who I was and on my last shift of the summer he shook my hand and told me it was a pleasure working with me and that he hopes I come back next summer.

Is it true what everyone says about celebrities, they're just normal people? If so, how did he show that to you?

A. Yes, in Reggie's case this is definitely true. Like I said before, I didn't even know he was famous, and he never acted like he was better than anyone at the club. We have a few other professional and former professional athletes at the club who look down on the servers and are not open to conversation. But Reggie was always striking up conversation. One time he even told me about how one of his kids sent him a video playing golf out in California.

Do you still keep in contact with him?

A. No, we do not keep in contact but I am planning on returning to my job at Turner Hill.

What do your friends say when you tell them you know him?

A. My friends from home think it's awesome because we are all huge hockey fans, especially Bruins fans. My friends at school are pretty indifferent toward it because it doesn't matter as much to them that I know a former Bruins.

Senior Kathryn McCallum had a connection to the
second president of James Madison University,
dr. samuel page duke.



When and how did you find out you were related to Dr. Samuel Page Duke?

A. My great-great-grandfather was Dr. Samuel Page Duke. I've known about my JMU connection all of my life but I didn't really understand it until I was in high school and started looking into colleges. I've always known Duke was a family name. It was so cool when I realized that's how JMU became the JMU Dukes.

What was your initial reaction when you found out you were related to someone JMU famous?

A. I always wanted to go to JMU because of the family connection, but when I went on a tour here I fell in love for so many other reasons!

Fun Fact:

The little house between Carrier Library and D-Hall, called Hillcrest, that's where the president used to live. Well, my grandmother lived there as a student with Dr. Duke and his wife, so whenever my grandmother asks about JMU she's always like, "Oh, how is my little house doing?" It's really awesome to hear about all her stories. All the buildings around campus are named after professors or administrators she had as a student while attending JMU. I lived in Eagle Hall freshman year, and my grandmother told me when I moved in, "Wow that Mr. Eagle was one good-looking fellow!" So it's just small things like that that are interesting.

What do your friends say when you tell them you are related to the second president of JMU?

A. The first thing most people ask is whether or not I get free tuition, but I don't.

Side note: A little story about how JMU's Mascot actually became the Dukes.

This is what my Grandmother told me: She was a student here at JMU when Dr. Duke was president. So a few members from the basketball team came to the president at the time, Dr. Duke, and asked for money for new uniforms. He was a frugal guy and didn't want to give them the money so he sent them away. As they were walking away they said something like, "Oh that's too bad, we were going to call ourselves the Madison Dukes," and that got his attention. Fortunately, he gave them money for new uniforms and the school got his name!

Sophomore Madison Kashetta had a connection to talk-show host, comedian, producer and voice-actor

conan o'brien.



Where and how did you meet Conan O'Brien?

A. I met Conan O'Brien in Utah during Christmas Break 2011. I was skiing in Deer Valley.

What was your initial reaction to meeting him?

A. It was not intimidating. I thought it was pretty cool. I was happy and shocked at the same time that I was talking to him. I messed up skiing, and he skied by and laughed at me. When I got to the end of the trail, he sarcastically commented on my skill of accidentally skiing backwards. Afterwards, while he was with his daughter, he pointed me out saying, "That was the girl I was telling you about who skied backwards." From then on, we started a conversation.

How did he act toward you?

A. He was really genuine. At the time, I was finding out what colleges I had been accepted to. Conan and I talked about furthering education, the colleges I was getting into and other topics about education.

Is it true what everyone says about celebrities, they're just normal people? If so, how did he show that to you?

A. He seemed normal enough. I mean, just by the down-to-earth conversation we had it was evident. Plus, it was cool to find out how he has a house in Connecticut about an hour away from my home. Even though he films in Los Angeles, it was cool to see his off-screen personality. He was intelligent and articulate. It was cool to see his other side in regards to him as a comedian.

What do your friends say when you tell them you know him?

A. They think it's really cool and funny how we met while I was unintentionally skiing backwards.

all in the FAMILY

Students create a legacy

When walking around the university, some students thought about who came before them. Great minds walked the same pathways that they walked everyday. And some students were lucky enough to have had people they knew walk before them: their friends, relatives and parents.

Junior Charity O'Connor was led to the university by many. Her mother, Sarah O'Connor, had been a professor in the writing, rhetoric & technical communication department since 2001 and her father was a professor in the School of Media Arts and Design. O'Connor's three older brothers went to the university as well.

When O'Connor graduated from high school in 2011 James Madison University was one of her top picks. As a Staunton, Va., native, O'Connor was familiar with the campus and visited many times with her family. When the time came to pick where she wanted to spend her next four years, her choice was clear.

"JMU was the obvious choice for me," said O'Connor.

Senior Connor Drew was also a legacy. Drew's father, Adrian Drew, graduated from the university in the 1980s. And last year in 2012,

Drew's younger brother, sophomore Bradley Drew followed in the elder Drew's footsteps and decided to attend. Even though Connor said he had to get used to having his little brother at his school, he liked having him around.

The Drew sons were not shy in saying that their father wanted them to decide on JMU when they began applying to college. The Drews' even got their family dog, Duke, when Adrian and Connor came to the university for a football game.

"I felt very comfortable at JMU," said Connor Drew.

Adrian resided in Sparta, N.J., but still made the trek down to Harrisonburg to visit his alma mater and his sons.

While some students were not as lucky as O'Connor and Drew to have their family near them all the time, they could still be proud of the legacy that they created at the university. Students were still possibly starting a tradition that their future relatives could follow.

WORDS Colleen Lentile
PHOTOS Mary Katherine Appel
DESIGN Abigail Walter



Connor Drew (left) and Bradley Drew (right) pose for a picture outside Market One. Connor enjoyed sharing his school with Bradley.



Charity O'Connor (left) and her mother, Sarah O'Connor (right) run into each other in Harrison Hall. Both O'Connors were part of the WRTC program.

from deserts to MOUNTAINS

Duke dogs come from near and far

Wilson Hall's iconic bell tower, purple and gold streamers on game day and excellent academics were defining characteristics of James Madison University. But beyond the gorgeous campus, students and teachers alike were drawn to the university's charming and welcoming atmosphere.

Jennifer Almjeld, a new professor, moved from New Mexico State University this past summer to teach in the writing, rhetoric & technical communication department. While at NMSU, Almjeld taught classes relating to digital media, new media theory and production and online publishing to graduate students.

Having grown up in Kentucky, she missed the East Coast and began looking for teaching opportunities in the Virginia area. While searching she came across a mid-sized university nestled in the Shenandoah Valley: JMU.

During a visit on a snowy day in 2013, Almjeld realized how unique the university was. She was particularly impressed by how positive and friendly students were and how they opened doors for one another. After only eight hours of being on campus, her decision was made. She would become a JMU professor.

"My first day at JMU was interesting. I flew in from New Mexico where it was like 75 degrees but when I landed here I needed a huge winter coat and woke up to 7-or-so inches of snow the next morning," said Almjeld. "In fact, one whole day of my interview was cancelled because the campus was closed for snow. I ended up having dinner with one of my future colleagues, so it was a great day."

She sensed that JMU students could change the world. Throughout her first fall semester here, she learned that students were more than people who attended class. They were involved, cared about their community and strived to create a memorable experience during their time at the university.

"JMU focuses on what students can do, not just what they can learn," said Almjeld.

Having taught in New Mexico and Virginia, Almjeld enjoyed the landscape and community of Harrisonburg the most. Visiting downtown, trying local restaurants and visiting lavender fields were among the highlights of her first semester.

"I fell in love with the town right away," said Almjeld. "My home is a 15-minute walk to Downtown, so we spent lots of time at Fridays on the Square listening to concerts, going to Funfest nights and exploring new restaurants like Rick's Cantina, Finnigan's and the Artful Dodger. I think it's a really lovely and quaint downtown, and I like nothing better than to stroll down after work"

WORDS Mary Pitts
PHOTOS Madeline Williams
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan





Professor Jennifer Almjeld researches her new school by reading *The Breeze*. Almjeld grew up in Kentucky and moved to New Mexico before settling in Harrisonburg.



Almjeld explores campus. After a long day at work, she enjoyed strolling around campus and visiting Downtown attractions.

JESTERS



TOP Members of Maddy Night Live goof off during practice. They enjoyed each other's company every Monday night at practice. **RIGHT** Maddy Night Live brainstorms sketch ideas during a meeting. They performed approximately 20-23 sketches each show.

among dukes

New sketch-comedy group entertains campus

Maddy Night Live members were the jesters of the court and were formed to entertain its subjects.

Senior Jena Frick invented a different kind of comedy in spring 2011, and quickly started collecting the funniest people she knew.

"I feel like I'm much better at sketch than I am at improv," said Frick.

Unlike New and Improv'd, the other comedy group on campus that focused on improv comedy, Maddy Night Live performed sketch comedy. Their skits were all scripted before the show and practiced night to perfection.

Troupe members started practice by fooling around for half an hour, but then got down to business, developing sketches to perform.

Inspiration came from anywhere: a character, a situation or a word. Even kids' shows were not off limits, as shown in the popular sketch Booze Clues.

Senior William Pittman hoped that writing and performing for Maddy Night Live would help him after college.

"I want to write comedy for television professionally," said Pittman. "And having not made it onto the improv team freshman year, I just really wanted to have the outlet to write comedy."

But students joined for many other reasons as well.

"I want to be a professional princess!" said senior Nathan Gallagher. "But really my main goal is to write or perform for comedic TV."

Gallagher was part of New and Improv'd, Maddy Night Live and even performed the occasional stand-up set.

Maddy Night Live performed in Taylor Down Under, Relay For Life, First Fridays Downtown and opened for a University Program Board comedian.

"We take up as many opportunities to perform as possible," said Pittman.

Maddy Night Live aimed to make people laugh and performed five live shows on campus as of late October, all featuring student-written sketches and musical guests like the BluesTones and Exit 245.

"I can't see myself doing much else," said freshman Joseph Cassella. "I love being on stage and I love entertaining people."

For all its efforts, Maddy Night Live won a Dolley Leadership Award for Emerging Organization for 2012-2013, earning a rank at the top of the new organizations.

"We just want to make people happy," said Cassella. "And we definitely want to entertain people."

WORDS Dominique Escalera

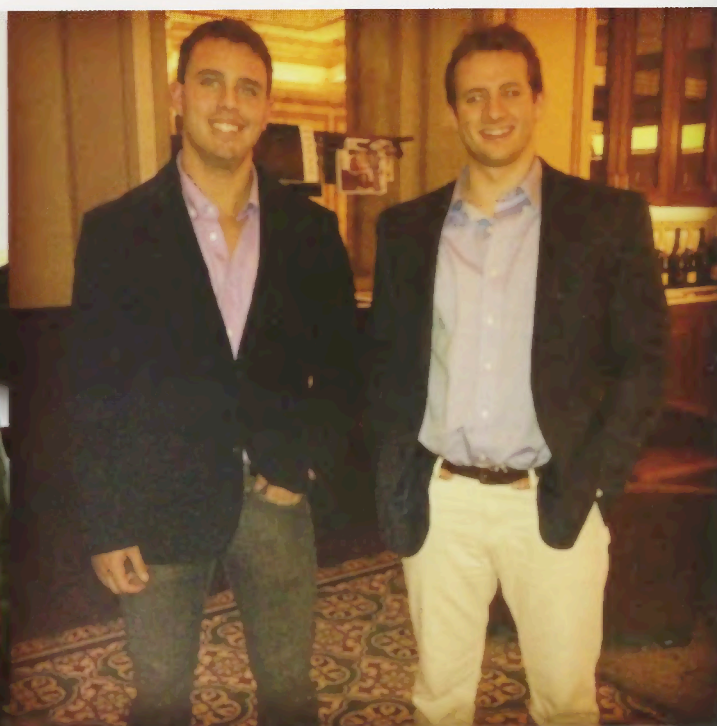
PHOTOS Julian Williams

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan





Fifth-year senior Victoria Hontz poses with a Team USA golf winner. She enjoyed getting to know the players during her internship at a golf course and formed bonds with many of them.



Senior Matthew Sedivy takes a break from his internship to visit a close friend in Los Angeles. While working for a record company over the summer, Sedivy met and worked closely with many artists.

LEARNING THE *business*

Students gain experience from internships around the world

When senior Matthew Sedivy interned in Las Vegas over the summer, he learned three valuable lessons: Do business by handshake, keep your nose clean and always return a phone call.

It was Sedivy's experience in the epicenter of the entertainment industry, and fifth-year senior Victoria Hontz's adventures in London working with professionals and under Big Ben, that allowed the two students to get their feet in the door of the professional world.

As a music industry major with a concentration in classical guitar performance, Sedivy sought real-life experience in the music industry field.

"You need experience for the industry; not everyone needs a college degree," said Sedivy.

He applied for internships at more than 30 record labels, and with the help of his uncle got his application on the desk of a competitive label in Las Vegas. Sedivy realized that having connections was important in the business world.

From there, Sedivy's "insane" application process began. A few phone interviews progressed to various background checks and drug tests before he was finally chosen for a paid internship at a large corporation that owned the whole north end of Las Vegas.

Sedivy called an apartment at the University of Nevada his home. He started his internship copying papers, but moved his way up the ladder by asking his supervisor to use him as an asset. Sedivy then became a project manager doing reports for music royalties and broker summaries, and soon realized the importance of networking.

"Everybody knows everybody," said Sedivy.

Even though working 50 hours a week was hard, it had its perks. Sedivy was given free tickets to Las Vegas shows where he had many unforgettable experiences, such as discovering that he was sitting next to Celine Dion's family at her concert.

"I didn't know what to expect. It was life changing in a positive way," said Sedivy.

Sedivy left Las Vegas with a few job offers and plans to return after graduation to continue pursuing his dreams.

Meanwhile, London was calling Hontz, a hospitality major with minors in business and human resource development. Hontz saw customer service first hand since she was surrounded by resorts and restaurants in her hometown in Bermuda. She landed her London internship through her Bermudian connections.

The paid, two-month-long internship had Hontz working for Eden Club, an elite international golf club, where she scheduled

golfers for international tournaments, scheduled the most cost-efficient transportation, shadowed a general manager in Scotland and ran the London office during her boss's two-week vacation.

"I got to build a personal connection with each member," said Hontz.

Her employers appreciated her potential and accountability.

"That was the biggest reason I got a job offer," said Hontz.

Outside of employment opportunities, Hontz experienced living on her own and met student interns like herself from around the world. The other interns taught her valuable lessons.

"I've learned to just open up. Sometimes you just have to go for it, be bubbly, be the nice person and people will come to you," said Hontz.

And go for it is exactly what Sedivy and Hontz did when they seized opportunities and began writing their own stories.

WORDS Brittany Maruca
PHOTOS Courtesy of Matthew Sedivy and Victoria Hontz
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

aca-auditions

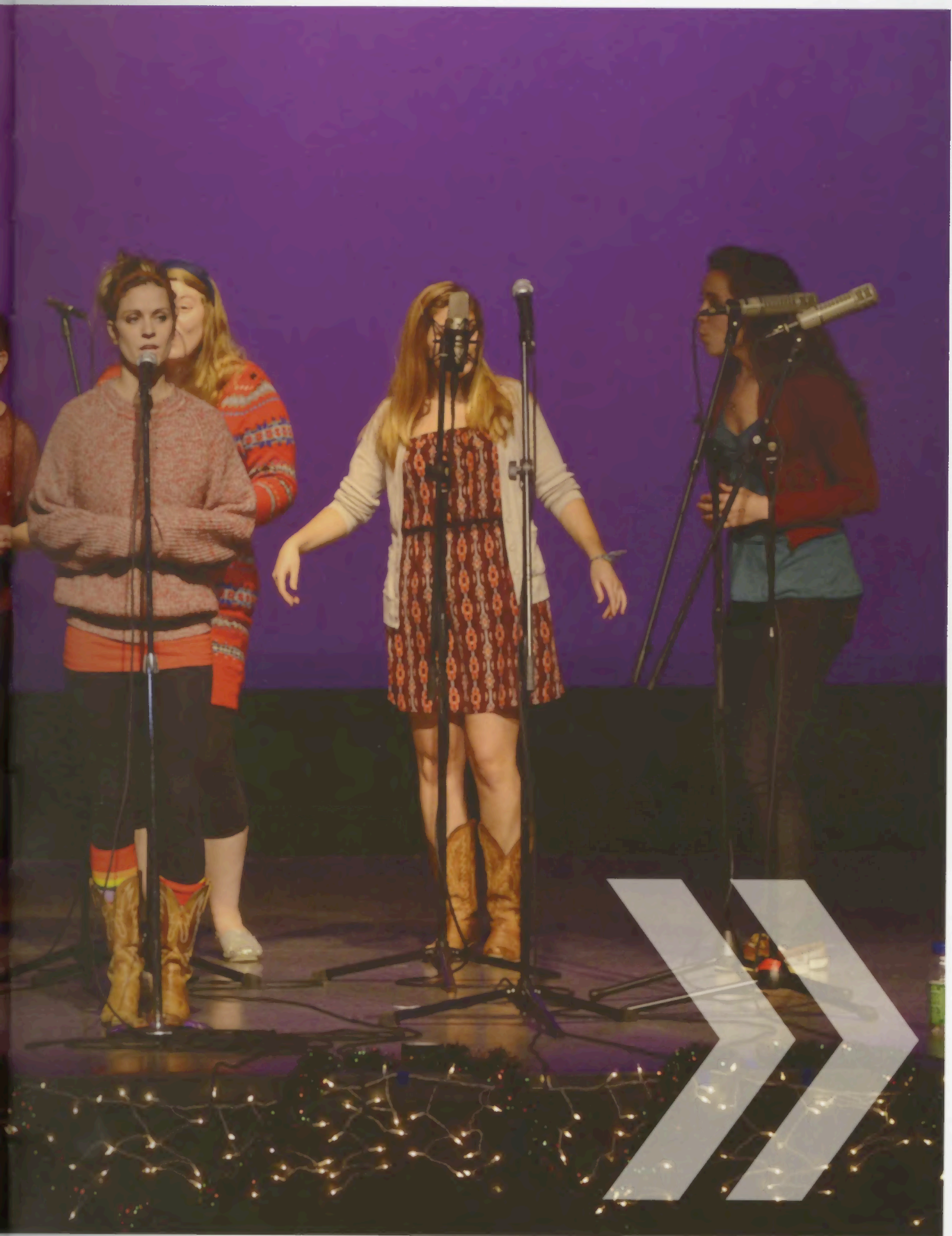
Students aim to be pitch perfect

PHOTOS Emily MacLeish

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



The all-women's a capella group, Into Hymn, joined together onstage to make beautiful music. Into Hymn was a Christian a capella group, practicing to improve their faith and voices.



into hymn »



Kathleen McVicar (left) and Kelsey Wessels (right) pose on the Quad. Both girls auditioned for multiple groups before accepting invitations to join Into Hymn.

Nerves and excitement took over at this year's a capella auditions. Hundreds of singers auditioned to gain a spot in an a capella group. But in the end, only a handful made it.

Freshmen singers Kathleen McVicar and Kelsey Wessels took a chance and auditioned for a spot in one of the university's many a capella groups. McVicar and Wessels went through the audition process together and both successfully landed spots in Into Hymn.

Both girls had sung in choirs since they were little. Wessels always wanted to be a part of an a capella group. McVicar became interested after she went to an a capella performance with her brother at the university.

"It's a really exciting process because we are getting really talented girls, but also new sisters. It's just really fun to get to know the new girls and see their personalities," said junior Into Hymn members Jessica Wheeler and Bethany Ames. "They always bring something unique

and wonderful to the group. We love it."

Both McVicar and Wessels auditioned for several groups, however, they were drawn to Into Hymn, an all-female Christian a capella group. Their faith played a large role in their decision. They loved that they could be part of a group that combined their passion for singing with their faith.

During their auditions, Wessels sang "The Way I Am" by Ingrid Michaelson while McVicar sang "The Chain" by the same artist. Later, the girls found out they both received callbacks.

They were given sheet music to memorize, then sing at callbacks. Wessels sang "Lovely" by Sara Haze and McVicar sang "Clarity" by Zedd.

"I am so excited to be a part of a close-knit group of Christian-girl singers," said McVicar. "I feel like I have 13 girls who are 100 percent there for me all of the time. I also can't wait to make amazing music."

After the audition process was over, both girls

were called outside to the Quad where they were told that they were official members of Into Hymn.

"Being able to be a part of Into Hymn is such a blessing. I get to be a part of something that combines my love of God with my love to sing," said Wessels. "I know that these girls are always going to stand behind me and I am really looking forward to being part of the group."

WORDS Mary Pitts

exit 245 »



Samuel Valentine smiles in the Edith J. Carrier Arboretum. Valentine joined Exit 245 because of the members' attitudes and general atmosphere.

Exit 245 welcomed five new members into their group during fall semester. One new gentleman was freshman Samuel Valentine.

Valentine heard about Exit 245 prior to coming to James Madison University, but really became interested when he saw junior member Dakota Sharp helping someone with car troubles. Valentine spoke with Sharp who then suggested he join the Facebook account for JMU a capella auditions.

Valentine attended auditions with more than 70 a capella hopefuls where he sang a prepared song and had his range and pitch retention tested. Valentine was one of 12 students

who received a call back.

Valentine said he knew Exit 245 was the place for him when he walked into callbacks and they were having a dance party. At callbacks the group sang a song for the hopefuls and had the hopefuls return the favor.

Valentine, along with freshmen Christopher Cardelia, Samuel Mayman, Sean O'Brien, and sophomore David Pumphrey, joined the gentlemen of Exit 245.

Senior Music Director Mark Thress had high hopes for the newcomers and said, "They sound tight."

WORDS Emily MacLeish

UNCLE PETE

Alumnus, vocalist and equipment manager bridges music and football

Pete Johnson sat in his office – eyes closed, feet tapping – as he gently moved his fingers along a conductor's path. He hummed to the soundtrack of "October Sky."

Johnson's voice carried on and off the football field. The alumnus, whom athletes fondly called "Uncle Pete," was the voice of the alma mater and national anthem, but he was also often caught singing in the football equipment room.

Shane Vernarsky, assistant equipment manager, said Johnson constantly played music in his office and Vernarsky doubted that he even realized he was singing.

He had always loved music and began performing at age 7. Johnson remembered listening to music, his voice bouncing off the pillars and walls in church.

"I have always been a performer," said Johnson.

Soon after Johnson enrolled in the university in 1986 as a vocal performance major, his father became sick and Johnson returned home to Danville, Va., before completing his degree.

Johnson returned to the university in 1994 with a scholarship for managing and became the head student manager for men's basketball under Coach Charles "Lefty" Driesell. He continued to perform in ensembles including Opera Theatre and University Chorus, but graduated as a history major in 1997.

After 9/11, then-Band Director Pat Rooney asked Johnson to sing with the Marching Royal Dukes' special football game performance, which included the national anthem and "God Bless America."

"I have been given a great talent," said Johnson. "God gave me the ability to sing. It is a part of what I want to give back to James Madison, for what it has given to me."

After Rooney retired, Scott Ridders took over as director of the MRDs. Ridders continued to ask Johnson to perform with the marching band.

"What makes Pete unique is that he is an alumni," said Ridders. "He directly links football and band."

Johnson said he rarely turned down a request to perform, especially when it was the national anthem.

"It's our national anthem and it deserves to be sung with respect," said Johnson. "It's not about you, the person that sings the song, it's about what the song represents for all the people that died so I could live free."

He soon became part of the MRD family. "We look forward to him talking to the whole band every year during band camp. What he went through and the challenges he's overcome are very inspirational to all of us," said senior Melissa Gehlbach, a member of the MRD leadership.

In 2009, Johnson lost his left eye in a golfing accident. The same year, Johnson invited all of the MRD student leadership and members of the football student managers staff to his annual back-to-school picnic. Johnson and his wife cooked for 125 people.

"He is a part of our family as much as we are a part of his," said Ridders.

Johnson became an honorary member of Kappa Kappa Psi, a band

service fraternity, in 2010.

He also treated the football equipment room staff and players as his family.

Johnson was a part of several musical performances outside of the university, including the Danville Symphony Orchestra and Greensboro Symphony Orchestra. He loved balancing music and sports and said it wasn't difficult.

"Music drives the soul and sports do the same thing," said Johnson. "They are both emotional events. When we go out on that field, it's emotional. If you don't have emotions, it is hard to live."

For Johnson, the ultimate musical experience would be to perform the national anthem at the White House, but he said the best part of his day was singing lullabies to his 17-month-old daughter.

WORDS & DESIGN Angela Williams
PHOTO Rebecca Sullivan



Equipment manager and alumnus Pete Johnson sings during the Marching Royal Dukes' pregame show. Johnson had been football equipment manager for 12 seasons.



Singer Patti Lupone poses with members of the JMU Symphony Orchestra. Her performance with the orchestra was the first time she performed with a university ensemble in her extensive career.

from the BIG STAGE to our stage

Broadway legend performs with Dukes

The masterpiece season started with a Broadway legend, Tony and Oliver award winner, Patti Lupone. In her show "Coulda, Shoulda, Woulda," Lupone sang a variety of show tunes with the accompaniment of the James Madison University symphony orchestra and an ensemble of members from the School of Musical Theatre.

The show was filled with songs from roles she had previously played and songs from roles she wished she had played.

Lupone began by explaining that as a budding child performer, she realized she could do whatever she wanted onstage, and the audience would smile at her. Then she started singing songs from shows that she performed in her high school years, including "Funny Girl" and "South Pacific."

As her performance progressed, Lupone demonstrated her extraordinary repertoire, singing songs from Broadway classics such as "Hair," "Bye Bye Birdie," "Funny Girl," "West Side Story," "Kiss Me, Kate" and "Peter Pan."

She also gave an outstanding performance of one of her most famous numbers, "Don't Cry for Me Argentina" from *Evita*.

"Having someone of her caliber is a tremendous experience for both students and members of the JMU community," said President Jonathan R. Alger. "I think having Patti perform here raises the bar and shows people here at JMU what is possible. As we saw tonight, Patti is a big believer in people finding their own voice and staying authentic to themselves, and that is a message I want our students to hear."

Audience members were impressed with her impeccable voice and the

fascinating story of her extensive career. By the end of the show, the crowd was on their feet as Lupone took her final bow on the stage.

Junior Samantha Melkonian found Lupone's performance to be particularly mesmerizing.

"I sat in the student section behind her and she always made a point to turn around and look at us or sing to us," said Melkonian. "When she missed her entrance to a song because she was complimenting the students onstage with her, I really felt she was genuinely impressed with our school and the talent it has. I'm grateful to our school for bringing her, and thoroughly enjoyed getting the opportunity to watch a legend in action."

Many students enjoyed Patti Lupone's performance and agreed that it was a magnificent start to the masterpiece season.

WORDS Stephen Wildemann
PHOTO Brian Prescott
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

Tacos El Primo sits in its spot on Reservoir Street. The large truck served many different versions of tacos.



CURBSIDE CUISINE

Good eats in unlikely places

Not every parking lot was for parking, some were for eating.

In a few empty lots scattered around Harrisonburg, trucks that made and served food parked themselves for hours and even days at a time. Some even tried to disguise themselves as stores with bright paint and flowers. Harrisonburg was home to many different kinds of food trucks that varied from grilled cheese to doughnuts to tacos.

"It gives Harrisonburg a unique sense of culture and community," said freshman Brittany Patterson.

One of the oldest and most well-known food trucks in the area was Tacos El Primo, located on Reservoir Street. It was hard to miss: a big, light blue truck that took up six or seven parking spaces in a usually empty apartment parking lot. The empty lot served as a nice patio area for customers to pick a table and enjoy their meal.

Since 2005, Tacos El Primo had served authentic,

and inexpensive, tacos, burritos and other dishes. They even served beef tongue in some of their dishes, a delicacy hard to find in Harrisonburg.

Grilled Cheese Mania was another popular food truck, located on South High Street. One of the prettiest places around, Grilled Cheese Mania was painted bright red and had different plants and flowers placed around the truck. The establishment had a subtle personal twist that many people did not know about.

"All the sandwiches we serve are named after my close family members," said Kathleen Mania-Casey, the manager of Grilled Cheese Mania. "My middle name, Mania, inspired the name for this food truck."

The family connections and the motto under the sign, "Simple Comfort Food," gave a charming sense of community to the little food truck on the street.

In the abandoned lot of a run-down Liberty gas station on East Market Street, the Strite's Donuts

truck set up shop every Tuesday and Thursday. Instead of giving an order to someone in the window, picking out the perfect doughnut was more like grocery shopping. Strite's set up long tables and laid out boxes of doughnuts for customers to browse. The truck was dedicated entirely to the company's donut-making appliances and ingredients.

"They sell some of the best doughnuts in the area," said freshman Eve Kassalow.

Students only needed to look in the parking lots, not the buildings, to begin enjoying some of the best food in Harrisonburg.

WORDS George Agrios
PHOTOS Madeline Williams
DESIGN Megan Rzepka



TOP LEFT Chicken tacos are a popular choice at Tacos El Primo. Students regularly enjoyed eating from the food truck. **TOP RIGHT** Grilled Cheese Mania is decorated to look like a home. The bright red truck was a delicious place for students to stop and enjoy sandwiches. **BOTTOM** Grilled Cheese Mania sandwiches come to students wrapped in foil. The sandwiches had personalized "names" to add to the truck's homey feel.



the DOWN TOWN sound

Art, food and film bring the community together

WORDS Dominique Escalera

PHOTOS Haley Lambert and Nicole Martorana

DESIGN Lauren Stearns



Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance worked on getting college students involved Downtown. "We're trying to find ways to build art in the community," said Nicole Martorana, promotions manager of Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance. Harrisonburg was named the first Arts and Culture District in the state last year and worked to define what that meant.

"We're offering events for the community to explore through classes, exhibits and events about art," said Martorana.

Martorana, a James Madison University alumna, thought it was important for students to be involved in defining the Downtown art culture.

Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance created First Fridays Downtown for residents to have an event to attend at least once a month. First Fridays focused on fine art. Thirty-three downtown businesses invited artists to display their work and stayed open late on Friday.

The Downtown Film Series was a three-part event created to spotlight a unique type of art in the valley: filmmaking. In September, the film series focused on inviting students to enjoy student and faculty art, student performances and a feature film.

Sophomore Andrew Levering of the Overtones said he enjoyed the various activities set up at the festival.

"There were a bunch of vendors from around town," said Levering. "It was cool!"

JMU groups included The Overtones, Exit 245, Mozaic Dance Team and New and Improv'd.

"We just like getting out into the Harrisonburg Community," said the Overtones' public relations officer, senior Connor Drew. "Being off campus but

still in Harrisonburg, we get to perform for families and people who wouldn't hear a capella normally."

Drew thought that JMU student groups' participation in the events helped the Harrisonburg community learn more about the surrounding colleges, and helped the students experience Harrisonburg.

"All the a capella groups get people engaged in music, not just as a major but as a hobby," said Drew. "Music can be just for fun."

Music wasn't the only entertainment of the night, though. JMU's comedy group New and Improv'd closed the live performances before the film.

"Comedy brings such diversity to the arts," said senior Nathan Gallagher, of New and Improv'd. "Improv involves the audience and makes it more relatable to everybody."

The Improv team pulled audience members onto the stage in their performance.

"It was a lot more open space than we're used to," said Gallagher. "We really have to work to capture the audience but they seemed to really enjoy it."

As New and Improv'd left the stage, laughter subsided and a film by an Eastern Mennonite University student, "Where Do Your Thoughts Dwell," ended the night.

Martorana said the Film Series was a success and planned for a longer series next year.

"The main goal is to highlight artists, filmmakers and performers in the community in a festival setting," said Martorana. "Everyone really enjoyed it, so we're definitely bringing it back."



Exit 245 performs during Harrisonburg
Downtown Renaissance Downtown Film Series.
The group performed with many other JMU
organizations including Mosaic Dance Team,
Madison Project and New and Improv'd.



DJ

FROM AROUND TOWN

Student spins tracks
around Harrisonburg

Senior Ryan Slocum played all the popular hits with old classics mixed in to pump up the Festival Lawn.

"I have more music on record than I do in any other medium," said Slocum. "I took my parents' records and turntables and started making beats."

Slocum had been mixing music since high school.

"I would make beat CDs and hand them out at school," said Slocum. "I got enjoyment out of getting feedback. With the music I had on record, I could only entertain people to a certain extent."

In his sophomore year, Slocum received one of his favorite Christmas presents ever, a Serato table that allowed the music on his computer to be manipulated by a digital turntable. With the help of his new toy, Slocum was able to get 10 gigs his first semester.

"One time, not long before setup, my speakers blew," said Slocum. "Things were just getting started then [the sound] all dropped."

Music wasn't Slocum's only passion, though. He loved video and filming live events. Slocum spent two summers in New York City, combining his love for music and film.

"I came back home and realized how far I had to go," said Slocum. "DJing is not like a job, at least not now."

Once he returned to Harrisonburg, his gigs had no limits. In the span of two days he played at The Blue Nile, The Artful Dodger and on the Festival Lawn. Taking any opportunity to network, Slocum DJed at weddings, parties, retirements and even his former high school's homecoming dance.

"I think it's beneficial to be at home," he said. "Knowing the people around here hasn't hurt."

Slocum never just followed set lists, he mixed in records and digital music live, adjusting to each venue.

"You get a different feeling from each type of music, to match the mood of the day," he said.

For Slocum, college was a time to figure out what he was going to do.

"I want to get good before I start to brand myself," said Slocum. "I want there to be a decent product there. I want to give people what they want."

WORDS Dominique Escalera
PHOTO Jacob Williams
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



don't forget to be

Club comes together to fight "world suck"



"A nerdfighter is a person who, instead of being made out of bones and skin and tissue, is made entirely of awesome," said John Green, co-creator of one of the most popular video blog channels on YouTube: the Vlogbrothers.

JMU Nerdfighters formed to unite viewers of the Vlogbrothers' YouTube channel, who were commonly referred to as 'Nerdfighters', at the university. Unlike the name suggested, Nerdfighters did not actually "fight nerds," but were instead nerds who fought to make the world a better place. Sophomores Anatash Werne and Shelby Creeley, served as the organization's president and vice president when they co-founded the organization in fall 2013.

"I knew the community had a huge online presence from the Vlogbrothers channel on YouTube, but didn't realize there were others in my area," said Werne. "I made the Facebook page 'JMU Nerdfighters' and invited the three

people I knew, feeling pretty silly. But people started joining out of nowhere."

JMU Nerdfighters became an official student organization, with more than 100 group members on Facebook. The organization was only in its first year of existence, so its members were still hard at work on sorting out all of the kinks. However, the organization's main goal stood firm.

"We want to make the world a better place however we can, which will probably end up being through fun, goofy and nerdy activities," said Werne.

One activity was the Vlogbrothers' annual "Project For Awesome," which involved the production of charity-oriented videos that covered YouTube's front page and raised public awareness.

"One video is going to be about [our chosen] charity and why we like it," said sophomore member Rachel MacGregor. "And then if we get however many views, we'll

release [another] video of us doing something silly."

The project occurred every year and involved online livestreams with popular YouTubers, who orchestrated the liking and favoriting of "P4A" videos so that they made it onto YouTube's front page.

The organization aimed to help others in need and had a great time while doing it.

"JMU Nerdfighters is a place where awesome people can meet each other and choose to care about stuff that matters to them," said Werne.

As the traditional Nerdfighters signoff goes, DFTBA (Don't Forget To Be Awesome)!

WORDS Michelle Crique
PHOTO Danielle Lerer
DESIGN Abigail Walter

AWESOME.



"We're about bringing nerdfighters together to increase awesome and decreasing world suck."





COUNTERCLOCKWISE, LEFT TO RIGHT
 Sophomore Emily Scott naps before class. Students used the Nap Nook to destress. Sophomores Matthew Taylor and Shannon Brockman take a break from their school day and enjoy a nap at Festival's Nap Nook. The Nap Nook was created by Caroline Cooke and is open, by appointment to JMU students and faculty. Freshmen Brooke Campbell and Brooke Maden enjoy lunch. The Nap Nook could be used for sleeping or simply to relax during their day.





dog NAPS

Students slumber between classes

Senior Caroline Cooke was tired of being tired so she created the Nap Nook as part of the Revive the Sleep Deprived campaign. In order to raise awareness about sleep deprivation, Cooke sectioned off a portion of Festival solely for napping.

"Students are often unaware that many of their daily habits play a large role in the quality of their sleep," said Cooke.

Half of the Festival floor was taken up by body-length beanbags for students and faculty members to take naps on. Anybody could walk in and sign out one of the beanbags for 40 minutes, or reserve a beanbag online ahead of time.

The other half of the Nap Nook had chairs and counters for anybody who wanted a quiet place to study or read. Sophomore Andrew Lambrechts didn't nap there, but often came to do homework in between his classes.

Lambrechts enjoyed studying in the Nap Nook because he found it to be a nice, quiet place conveniently located in Festival. And he didn't have to walk all the way to Rose Library.

Students and faculty came to the Nap Nook at almost every hour of the day: between classes, after classes or before classes.

"The center has attracted an overwhelming amount of attention, and student support has been unbelievable," said Cooke.

Whether for sleeping or studying, the Nap Nook was a quiet haven for anyone who wanted to escape the hectic world of classes, homework and extracurriculars.

WORDS George Agrios

PHOTOS Danielle Lerer

DESIGN Elizabeth Wertz



NEW FRAT ON THE BLOCK

Delta Tau Delta joins Greek life

The Delts, as they went by, scoped out the university for five years before settling their colony on campus.

"They just wanted to add something new to our Greek system here," said junior Christopher Settle.

He cited their strong values as his main reason for joining.

Settle, the interfraternity council representative, was one of the 64 founding fathers. They went through interviews before receiving a bid.

"Basically we're laying the foundation for what this organization is going to be for the next couple hundred years or so, and we're just establishing us on campus and trying to work to get a charter," said Settle.

After being chartered, the James Madison University chapter of Delta Tau Delta was recognized by the National Delta Tau Delta organization and become an official organization on campus.

Getting chartered involved having an average

GPA above 2.5, maintaining a competitive number of members, following recruitment procedures and demonstrating active participation in service and philanthropy.

Service was the main draw for sophomore President Zachary Carter. He emphasized the organization's desire to integrate themselves into the community.

"We just like to do good things," said Carter.

The Delts participated in 365 recruitments, according to their national model. While they went through the same recruitment procedures as other fraternities, they could extend a bid at any point in the year.

They hoped to get to about 80 members by the end of the year.

WORDS Taylor Vollman
PHOTO Courtesy of Zachary Carter
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



The members of Delta Tau Delta pose with their flag at their colonization ceremony. The fraternity has 132 chapters and colonies at colleges and universities across the country.



The Delts paint a building as part of a community service project. The national philanthropy of Delta Tau Delta is the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

A HOME AWAY FROM **home**

Prescott dives into culture through language

Living in another country, learning the native language, exploring the city and riding camels were just some of the highlights of senior Sarah Prescott's exciting study abroad trip in Morocco.

"The best way to learn about a culture is through the language," said Prescott.

An international affairs and Arabic double major, Prescott traveled to Morocco during summer 2013 to study Arabic and immerse herself in the Moroccan culture. It was her third trip to Morocco through an independent study abroad program.

"Living in Rabat, Morocco, for three months has given me a new global perspective on life. My goal was to learn as much Arabic as I possibly could, but I walked away with a life-changing experience," said Prescott.

One of her favorite memories was spending a weekend traveling through the Sahara Desert. Her group traveled on camels through the sand dunes and witnessed beautiful, colorful sunrises. Other short trips included visiting the Atlas Mountains and popular Moroccan beaches.

While in Morocco she enjoyed spending time with the locals. They liked to drink tea together and talking.

After graduation Prescott planned to move to Morocco to teach English and international affairs. Her long-term goal was to work in interpretation or translation.

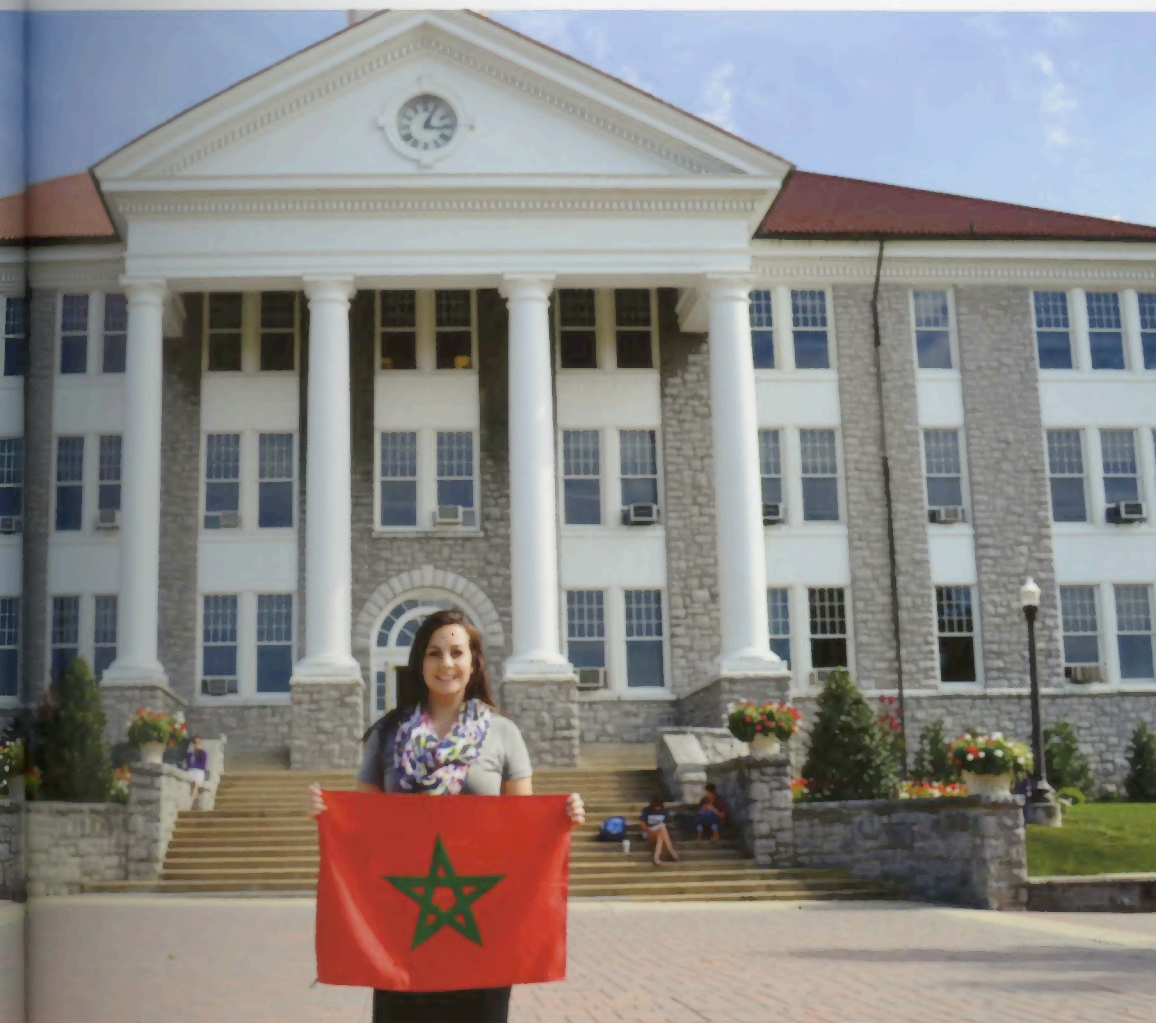
"Sarah has been one of the most motivated and passionate students of Arabic language and culture in the Arabic program at JMU," said Aram Shahin, Prescott's adviser. "She has shown great dedication and determination in her desire to study and learn. She has proven to be an important asset to our program and to her colleagues."

WORDS Mary Pitts

PHOTOS Emily MacLeish and courtesy of Sarah Prescott

DESIGN Laura Svites





BOTTOM FAR LEFT Sarah Prescott shows off her lawh, a certificate she was awarded for completing four years of Arabic. The lawh also had her professors' names written on it in Arabic calligraphy.

TOP Proudly holding the Moroccan flag in front of Wilson Hall, Sarah Prescott brings a piece of her trip to the university's campus. Prescott had been to Morocco a total of three times and planned to move there after graduation to teach English and international affairs.

BOTTOM RIGHT Sarah Prescott rides through the Sahara Desert on a camel. During her time in Morocco, Prescott also had a chance to visit the Atlas Mountains and several popular Moroccan beaches.

BOTTOM LEFT Wearing a JMU baseball hat in the Sahara Desert, Sarah Prescott holds up her gold JACard. Many students participated in the "Where in the World is Your JACard?" campaign and took pictures with their JACards when they visited interesting places.

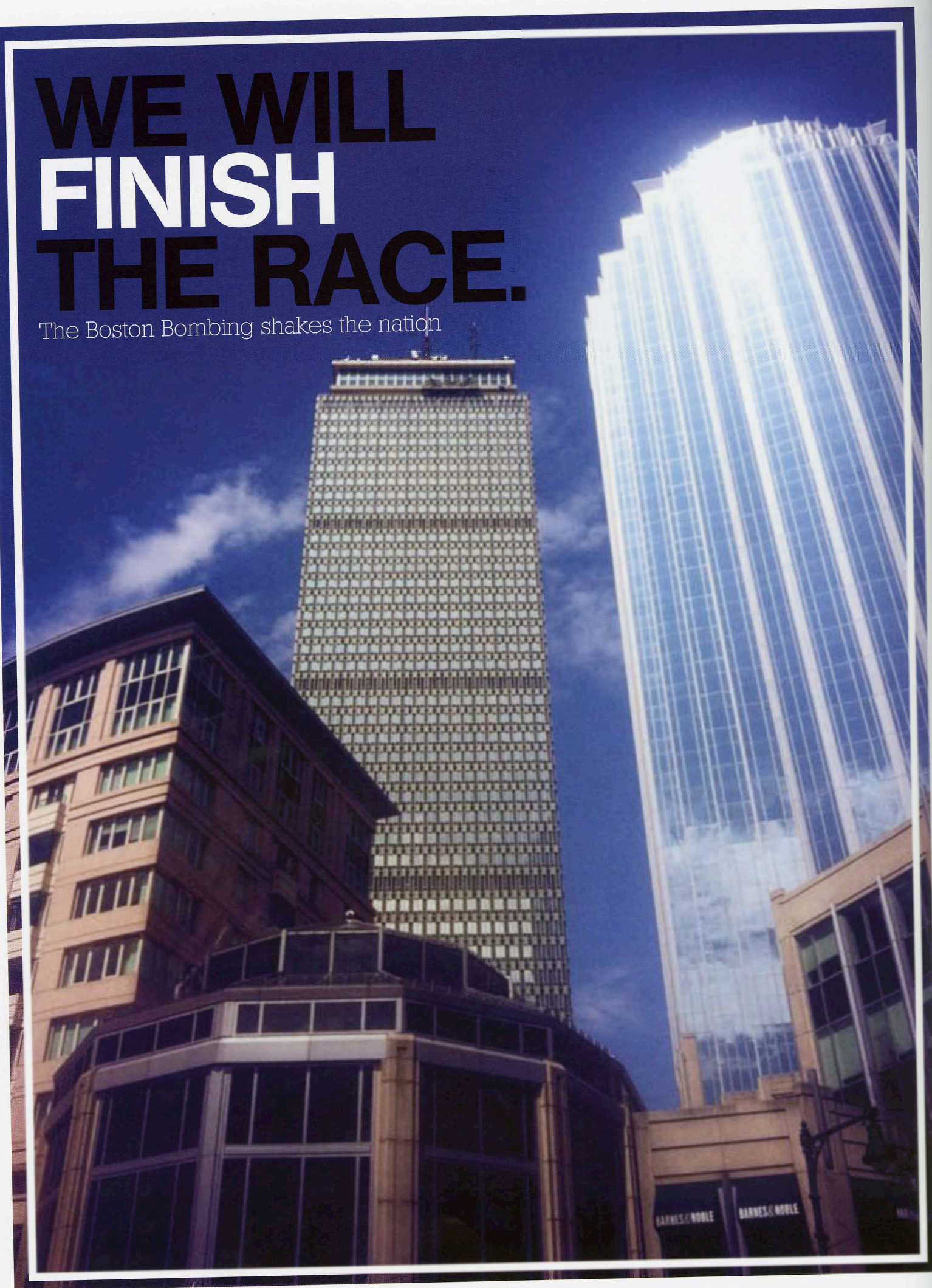


Prescott's Daily Schedule in Morocco

6:30 a.m.	Wake up
7:00 a.m.	Breakfast: Sweets, Moroccan tea, bread and cheese
8:00 a.m.	Class
10:30 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.	Class
12:00 p.m.	Lunch in Medina, consisting of street food
Afternoon	Sit with shopkeepers, go to the beach, travel or study
10:30 p.m.	Dinner of tagine, couscous or bastilla

WE WILL FINISH THE RACE.

The Boston Bombing shakes the nation



The bang of the starting pistol, the cheering crowd and the pitter-pattering of moving feet, all sounds that a spectator could expect to hear at a marathon. But, at the 2013 Boston Marathon, the spectators heard other sounds. They heard bombs exploding and screams of pain and hysteria. They heard chaos.

On April 15, at 2:49 p.m., two pressure cooker bombs went off on Boylston Street near the finish line of the race, killing three people and injuring about 264 contestants.

After law enforcement decided to conduct a "manhunt" for the two bombers, they asked the residents of the area to stay indoors. They later found the brothers Tamerian and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, who had been reported to be extremist Islam and were angry about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Tamerian was injured in the shooting that took place between his brother, himself and police officers. He later passed away, while his brother, Dzhokhar remained in custody.

There were immediate efforts to support those who were injured in the marathon and the families of those who died. And the citizens of the United States stood together as one to mourn the fallen.

President Obama assured his nation saying, "Every one of us has been touched by this attack on our lovely city." He gave the many runners that lost limbs hope for the future in saying, "You will run again."

Like the runners, the U.S. pressed on and in their strength, continued to recover from this devastating loss.

WORDS Colleen Lentille

PHOTO Rachel Hickey

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



Junior Patrick Wilson smiles as he crosses the finish line at the Boston Marathon. Wilson got a time of two hours and 55 minutes and made it safely home after the race.

a runner's STORY

A student speaks on his experience in Boston

"Running is my stress management," said junior Patrick Wilson.

Wilson's goal was to participate in the seven major marathons, which included races in Japan and England. His first stop was the Boston Marathon in April 2013.

After training for months, he finished the marathon with a personal best time of two hours and 55 minutes and was at Logan International Airport, waiting to board his plane back to Virginia when he learned of the bombings.

He recalled getting a text message from his brother, who had also run the race. The message informed him that a bomb had gone off at the marathon. As he was making his way through the airport, he caught a few glimpses of the madness at the marathon on a television.

"When I was in the airport, I got a few strange looks because my bags had 'Boston Marathon' written on them," said Wilson.

He was surprised that he was allowed on the plane, now knowing that the city of Boston was later put on lockdown while the police searched for the men responsible for the bombings.

He appreciated the outpour of concern that his friends and family had for him on that day, but he still had a bittersweet feeling about the marathon. He was very proud of his finishing time, but felt remorse for the victims of the bombings.

"I feel very lucky. It could have been me."

WORDS Colleen Lentile
PHOTO Courtesy of Patrick Wilson
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

revealing HISTORY

Students reflect on Harrisonburg's past

When students arrived at James Madison University, they didn't know much about the history of Harrisonburg. They may have heard about Downtown because of its culturally themed restaurants and unique shops, but few knew the real story of downtown Harrisonburg and the struggles its first residents experienced during its construction.

In the 1960s, the Urban Renewal Project was in full swing. The project's purpose was to attract more people to downtown Harrisonburg in the wake of the construction of the Interstate 81 cloverleaf, a highway interchange in which one road crossed over another to create an outline of a four-leaf clover.

Unfortunately, that swing destroyed many buildings and homes in downtown Harrisonburg, from Kline's Dairy Bar to The Little Grill Collective. In the process, residents were relocated, causing segregation.

To bring recognition to the subject, the city of Harrisonburg partnered with JMUSE, an organization at the university that is dedicated to open discussion. They began a three-part series of discussions: "Remembering Newtown," "Remembering Downtown" and "Creating Our Town."

"It was scientific, the way they demolished those houses," said Dr. David Ehrenpreis, one of the speakers in the discussions and a frontrunner of the "Creating Our Town" project.

He described a detailed map where every house that was destroyed was marked with the date and method of destruction. Ehrenpreis also showed pictures of people going back into their houses after the destruction looking for things to take with them. This exemplified how traumatic the event was for residents.

Junior Shayda Mohajer said that she knew about Newtown through a project she had to do for a poetry class, and what she learned made an impact.

"I think that it's a really devastating part of Harrisonburg's history, and we can't ignore any of what happened," said Mohajer. "Renaming Cantrell Avenue 'Martin Luther King Jr. Way' is an example of how I think the Harrisonburg community tried to romanticize the tragedy of Newtown. It's hardly any compensation for what negatively impacted many Harrisonburg residents."

Panelist and Vice-Mayor of Harrisonburg Charles Chenault was a child when the destruction happened and didn't know what was going on at the time.

"I didn't understand at 10 years old. But now I know it wasn't just a local issue, but a national one," said Chenault.

Chenault grew up in the Northeast neighborhood, went to Blessed Sacrament Church and lived in Harrisonburg at its peak. But then he watched parking decks be built and saw stores being taken down.

Many students felt it was an aspect of local history that needed to be addressed and wanted to help. Chenault described many tasks and plans that would help the area.

"There are tax abatement programs, economic incentives and new business. And we're trying to attract more retail," said Chenault.

All the plans were meant to draw more attention to downtown Harrisonburg and rebuild it to its former glory.



WORDS Coryn Cocozza
PHOTOS Courtesy of JMUSE
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



LEFT A student ponders the map showing the destruction of Newtown. JMUSE encouraged students to raise awareness of the event.

RIGHT Harrisonburg residents and students attended the JMUSE discussions. The JMUSE organization facilitated talks on various subjects all year.

BURNING UP THE STAGE

Aquila Theatre lights up in Forbes

Fahrenheit 451 was the temperature at which books burned. In the futuristic, dystopian world of Ray Bradbury's 1953 novel, "Fahrenheit 451," this was a commonly known fact utilized by "firemen" who would set books aflame in an attempt to destroy free thinking. However, with the help of a spirited young girl named Clarisse, one fireman broke tradition and realized the importance of literacy in our world.

On November 13, "Fahrenheit 451" came to life at Forbes Mainstage Theatre. The play was performed by Aquila Theatre, a world-renowned acting troupe based in New York City, featuring seven highly experienced actors and actresses from across the globe. Every role in the entire two-hour show was played by these seven performers, each taking on as many as four different characters throughout the course of the play.

Junior Frances Nejako was one of those in attendance at "Fahrenheit 451." During the 15-minute intermission, she described her thoughts on the show's first act.

"It's entertaining," said Nejako. "Like when they brought out a parachute to create a field – it's just very innovative but minimalistic, so you can focus on the story."

Sophomore Leila Spolter attended to experience something new.

"I haven't read the novel and I heard that it's awesome," said Spolter.

The play was indeed very true to the novel, as it was actually adapted for the stage by Ray Bradbury himself. Some highlights of the production included a projection screen at the back of the stage, which was used to display backgrounds, television screens and even action scenes from the point of view of the mechanical Hound. Quick costume and character changes were also a highlight of the show, keeping audience members on the edges of their seats until the very end.

Following the show, American actor Wayne Willinger, who portrayed the characters Black, Second Paramedic and Faber, shed some light on what the show was like behind the scenes.

"We try to crack each other up a little bit behind the scenes," said Willinger. "When the guy died at the end, I whispered over and said, 'Well, now we know what's for dinner.' So then Kali looked like she was crying but she was really laughing."

Kali Hughes, who portrayed the character of Mildred, was one of the five European performers involved in the show, with Calder Shilling and Wayne Willinger representing the only American actors in the play.

"[Aquila Theatre] does a lot of regional and U.S. touring," said Shilling. "They originally started here in the United States, and then started auditioning a lot of actors overseas and bringing them here."

At the time, Aquila Theatre had been touring the United States with "Fahrenheit 451" for almost two months straight, with little time off.

"We've got this down to like a fine-honed machine, we really do," said Willinger. "So this [performance] was like boom, boom, boom."

On that cold night in November, Aquila Theatre succeeded in setting Forbes' Mainstage Theatre on fire with their masterful, thought-provoking production of Ray Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451." It was an event that students would not forget.

WORDS Michelle Criqui
PHOTOS Bob Adamek
DESIGN Laura Svites



TOP The master class plays a game to get to know each other. Aquila Theatre members spent two hours working with the students. **BOTTOM** Members of Aquila Theatre help the master class warm up. The theatre troupe gave students helpful hints about performing.

happiness, time management & WATCHES

JMU students ponder what they wish they'd known from the start

From creating lasting memories to getting involved to stepping away from phones and computers for a moment, Dukes had some interesting insights to pass on to future students.

"Remember that having a college education or degree is not a means to getting a good job in the world, but more of a credential that says you're able to function in a structured field of thought," said senior Bryan Sullivan. "Rather than focusing on the idea that your major will determine your life after college, focus on the aspect of learning how to think differently. As you master these different ways of thinking, rather than settling in that thought process, challenge yourself to incorporate and internalize it as you continue to understand more."

It didn't end there, though. Others like Sullivan were full of insight and knowledge.

"Well, I guess one thing that I've learned a lot about is time management," said junior Glenn Bonforte. "My advice to freshmen would be to learn how to manage your time: get school work done first and then you'll have time for play. College can be a really enjoyable time if you learn to get school work done first and then play afterward."

Many advised students to be careful about their social lives, such as junior Danny Melendez.

"Make sure you choose the right people to hang out with," said Melendez. "Choose friends that are going to contribute to your success and make you a better person."

Others, such as junior Aaron Humphreys, advised future generations to be active on campus.

"Get involved! With so many student organizations representing so many different student groups on campus, there are endless opportunities to meet people with similar interests and passions as yourself," said Humphreys.

When junior D'Quaun Lyons was approached with the question, he smiled and said, "I've been waiting for someone to ask me that." Without missing a beat, he gave his advice.

"Don't come in to JMU with an idea of what persona you want to take on," said Lyons. "Be you and let others come to you by appeal."

Insight was abundant, especially from those such as

junior Kaitlin Birkbeck.

"Through my time at JMU I've learned that good things can happen to anyone, but great things happen to those who take risks," said Birkbeck. "Don't just sit back and let college pass you by. It'll pass faster than you think. Put yourself out there, get involved, take opportunities and do what you love. It'll pay off in the long run and make your experience at JMU one of a kind."

Some advice was more practical, though.

"Get yourself a watch. Put your phone down and experience things while they're happening," said junior Chelsea Edwards.

"You don't need to tweet it or Instagram it if you can live it. Your grandparents made memories without them, so you can, too. If you want to know the time, check your watch; you won't miss anything!"

Another example of practical advice was that of Daniel DelCoco, a junior who advised freshmen to, "learn to manage your time well because if you don't learn to do it freshman or sophomore year, it'll come back to haunt you junior year."

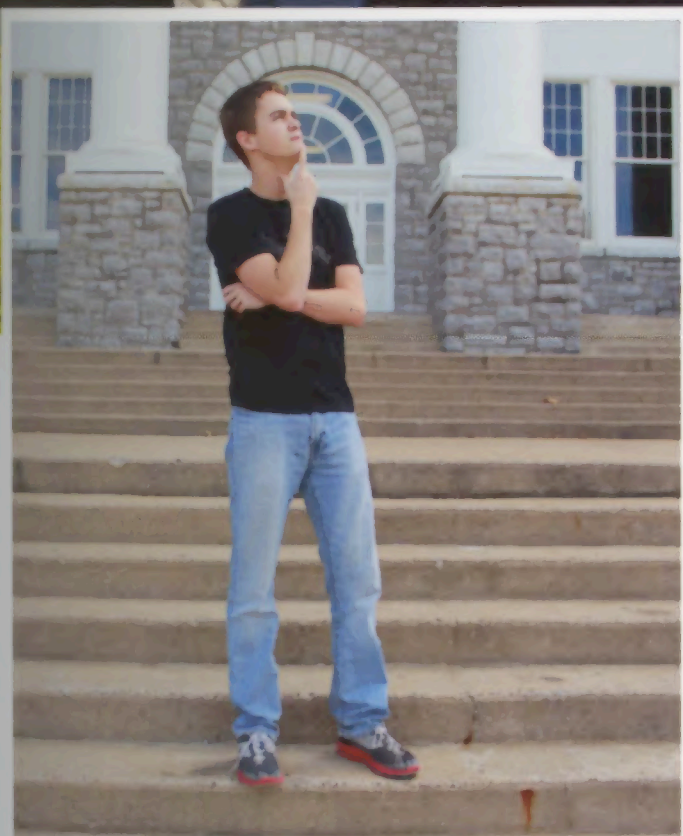
Junior Griffin Harrington came across the Quad and with him, some valuable advice.

"My advice is to take advantage of all of the opportunities that are offered here. You are paying this school tens of thousands of dollars a year, and you should make every cent count," said Harrington. "You don't have to just join a club, you can create one. Also, befriend your professors and the alumni, along with your peers, and heed their advice. They've been in your shoes, and probably had your same problems when they were your age."

The stories were different, as were the people telling them, but every reply was given the same: with enthusiasm and a smile. Regardless of the advice they gave or took, it was obvious that each and every Duke Dog had a story worth telling and one worth sharing.

WORDS & PHOTOS Timothy Mitchell
DESIGN Christina Reilley





TOP Senior Bryan Sullivan considers his idea of open-mindedness. His inspiration for this idea comes from a company that he is creating.

LEFT Freshman Ryan Cudahy ponders the jigsaw that is the university. He chose this metaphor to represent an enigma to the students.

going with the FLOW

New club brings a different light to hooping

When asked what her outlet was, sophomore Taylor Brusky responded, "hooping." For most of the community, hooping, or hula-hooping, might have been a rather unrecognized concept. But for Brusky and the rest of the members of Free Flow, it was an escape.

Her inspiration to start Free Flow came from hooping, a skill she picked up last summer while visiting her brother and friends. After spending months practicing and honing the skill, an idea came to her.

"For me, hooping was a means to express myself," said Brusky. "When I was doing it last year, I had the idea that maybe I could introduce the sport and the culture to JMU. Not just with hooping, but with a lot of other performance arts as well, such as fire-twirling, dancing, poi, juggling and so much more. There's a culture behind it all that I feel JMU hasn't really been connected to yet."

After finding others with a drive just as passionate as hers, they set out to form a club that was about students finding themselves and their outlet.

"Free Flow isn't just about hooping. That's the branch of it that I am connected to. Free Flow is all about finding your muse," said Brusky. "It's really an outlet for kids to come out and express themselves in a way that they previously couldn't. It doesn't matter what you do; performance arts, music, art, yoga, anything. As long as you come with an open mind, Free Flow is here for you to express your artistic drive and passion."

So, Taylor and the other founding members of Free Flow began the process of becoming a club: first they applied through the Office of Student Activities and Involvement, made it through the Creating Excellent Organizations workshops and finally came to fruition fall 2013.

"Anybody is welcome, regardless of skill set or knowledge of performance arts. When I first started, I was awful. I could barely keep the hoop up. It took me months to get better, but with Free Flow and all of the people involved, I've seen people pick up hooping and other arts in no time at all," said Brusky.

So, if students felt themselves bogged down with exams and work, or just needed a new hobby during the week, they could of checked out Free Flow: they might have been surprised by what they learned!

WORDS & PHOTO Timothy Mitchell
DESIGN Elizabeth Wertz

Sophomore Taylor Brusky swings her lit-up hoops to make a spectacular show. Brusky and her fellow club members used both hoops and poi with lights to make things more interesting and fun.





Phil Vassar sings songs requested by attendees at his concert in Wilson Hall. Vassar released seven albums in the past 13 years.

lookin' good, JMU

Phil Vassar serenades his alma
mater in early October

"This is a song I wrote about beer and six packs. I learned a lot at JMU," joked Phil Vassar during his two-night stint at the university.

On October 3 and 4, the James Madison University alumnus performed in Wilson Hall in honor of Parents' Weekend. Vassar, who graduated in 1985, joked about being the "Wilson House Band."

Without a set list when he took the stage, he let the crowd dictate the songs. He sang songs he wrote himself and performed covers from other artists. Crowd requests included his first single, "Carlene," and his first number one hit, "Little Red Rodeo." Alongside his own songs, he sang singles released by Jo Dee Messina and Tim McGraw. He laughed about his songs being based on girls and trucks, common in the country genre, and about a breakup song originally titled, "I Hate You Beotch."

Aside from his concerts, which were open to the community, he taught a master class.

"My professors are having a heart attack right now," he said with a chuckle.

Vassar really started focusing on music while at college, even though he originally came to the university on a track scholarship.

During his performance he made many references to his days as a Duke, mentioning old hangouts, such as Luigi's Pizza and the Barn Jams.

He even reminisced about the time he was kicked out of a girl's dorm room, kidding, "I'll find out who that Chandler Hall RA is one day."

He also alluded to the trouble he got into with his fraternity, Theta Chi.

"I think a lot of my fraternity brothers are coming tomorrow night so we'll probably get kicked off campus like we did back then."

All joking aside, he spoke fondly of his time in Harrisonburg and how it felt to be back.

"It's a beautiful weekend in Harrisonburg, Va.," said Vassar. "And it's good to be home."

WORDS Taylor Vollman

PHOTO Rebecca Sullivan

DESIGN Alexandra Roadley



guys, gals & GHOULS

Students own
the night

Mario caught the pass and went up for the shot, but he was blocked by a Minion. The Minion came down with the ball and sent a pass toward his partner that was intercepted by Luigi. Luigi lined up for the shot and scored a picture-perfect three-pointer to end the friendly pickup game. That was Halloween in Harrisonburg.

On a chilly Thursday, all the guys, gals and ghouls got together for a memorable Halloween celebration. Festivities included Fear Forest, trick or treating on Greek Row and the main event: Nightmare at UREC. Costumed students packed into UREC to enjoy a variety of activities, including a haunted house.

"It took 15-20 hours just to set up the haunted house," said Aaron Combs, assistant director of intramural sports and special events. "It's my favorite activity."

Students also enjoyed free refreshments,

and took part in dancing, an obstacle course and a costume contest.

Students showcased a plethora of costumes, ranging from simplistic representations of fairytale characters to extravagant imitations of video game heroes.

"I like all of the costumes," said sophomore Thomas Nixon. "Link is the most awesome."

Other popular costumes included Slenderman and the timeless duo of Mario and Luigi.

The Halloween festivities were not limited to campus. The local Chipotle participated in a special offer which gave a discount to anyone who ordered their food in costume.

"Some girl at Chipotle had a flower headdress," said sophomore Cristina Naldini.

Many students took the opportunity to celebrate the holiday at home.

"I like to hang out with friends, watch movies and pig out on candy," said junior Sarah Maher.

The Halloween festivities merged with the energy of this year's Homecoming events and created an electric atmosphere on campus. Students took full advantage of this festive feeling, and enjoyed as many events as they could.

"There's a good amount of people and activities," said Maher.

The guys and gals returned to their normal lives after the Halloween celebrations, but the whereabouts of the ghouls were never discovered...

WORDS Gregory Wilson

PHOTOS Courtesy of Eric Rippel and UREC

DESIGN Elizabeth Wertz



Students prepare to enter the haunted house at UREC. Nightmare at UREC became one of the most popular Halloween traditions among students.



A student dresses up for Nightmare at UREC. Costumes ranged from scary to funny to portrayals of TV characters.



Senior Elizabeth Wertz and junior Juan Sanmartin relax on the Kissing Rock. If couples kissed on the Kissing Rock, legend said they would be led to marriage.

myth BUSTING

Students reflect on common campus myths


Schools all over the country had something that made them different. At James Madison University, there were strange things around campus that sometimes seemed unexplainable. Just about every student experienced the phenomena of the clapping circles on the Quad, heard about the supposedly haunted Wilson cupola or had been warned to watch out for the Lady in Red. But what else went on at the university?

WORDS Paige Lobuts and Elizabeth Wertz

PHOTOS Rebecca Sullivan

DESIGN Abigail Walter and Elizabeth Wertz

The infamous tunnels lay somewhere underneath the Quad. Many students added finding their way into the tunnels to their senior bucket lists.



Students might have wondered if they would marry someone after kissing them on the legendary "Kissing Rock," or if they would find the tunnels under the Quad before they walked across stage and got their diplomas.

There were a few myths circling around campus as years passed, and it was time to crack some of these myths and get opinions from the student community.

The Kissing Rock was a well-known topic that visitors learned about on their walk through the Quad for the first time. But was the myth true? Students weighed in about the famous rock.

"I don't think you need a rock to tell you that you are supposed to be with someone. You should be able to figure that out on your own. You're in college," said sophomore Emily Wood.

Others disagreed.

"I think it's something really cool that JMU has and it contributes to the closeness of our campus," said senior Aneta Nikolic. "When people are visiting JMU, students always tell people about it because it is so meaningful to our school."

Interestingly, the Kissing Rock might not have had as illustrious a past as commonly thought.

"I volunteered at a senior center...and I met an older woman who was a student here almost 50 years ago when

the university was Madison College," said sophomore Taylor Williams. "I asked her if she knew what the Kissing Rock was, and she had never heard of it nor even knew what I was talking about."

For about 50 years, students and faculty members used the tunnels under the Quad to travel from building to building. The tunnels existed, but it was what may have occurred in the tunnels that remained a mystery. The tunnels were only available to service technicians. And the bravest students.

"I know friends who have been down there and they told me how to get down there. Except you have to break open a door to enter the tunnels," said junior Julia Slattery. "I have seen pictures. I definitely think it is true. Apparently there are old desks down there."

All sorts of legends floated around campus. Some were true, some were false and some remained a complete mystery to students. In the end, it was up to the students to figure out whether they were real or would always remain a myth. Students could find Prince Charming or Cinderella and make their way to the Kissing Rock or attempt to find those tunnels under the Quad.

the stories behind the myths

1 The clapping circles.

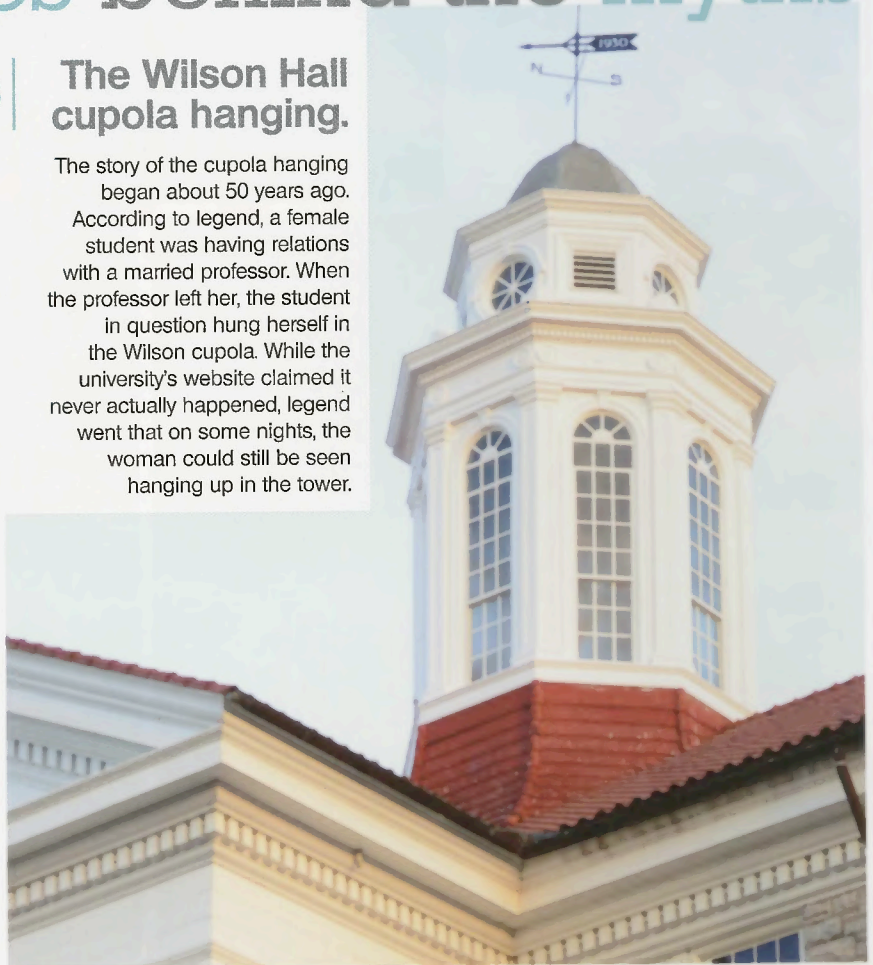
The clapping circles worked on acoustics. When standing in front of a regular brick wall, the sound reverberated back in the form of an echo. But the concentric circles of bricks on all of the Quad circles stood at different angles to the clapper, making the sound reverberate differently, which was why the sound was a squeak.

2 The Lady in Red.

In the early 1970s, an astrologer named Jeanne Dixon predicted that a female administrator at a college that started with "M," located in the Shenandoah Valley, would kill a student while wearing a red dress. Since this was when the university was still known as Madison College, students were on edge for years and female administrators were very careful about what color dress they wore. Thankfully, Dixon's prediction never came true.

3 The Wilson Hall cupola hanging.

The story of the cupola hanging began about 50 years ago. According to legend, a female student was having relations with a married professor. When the professor left her, the student in question hung herself in the Wilson cupola. While the university's website claimed it never actually happened, legend went that on some nights, the woman could still be seen hanging up in the tower.





LEFT Whoolery performs his award-winning scarf routine. He won the 2004 International Jugglers' Festival Showtime Competition with this show.
RIGHT Jamie Whoolery skillfully juggles three clubs. He learned to juggle at age 10 when he picked up a book called "Juggling for the Complete Klutz."



what goes UP must come DOWN

Forbes staff member stuns with juggling performances

Every couple remembers the first dance at their wedding, but Jamie and Fe Whoolery had a first juggle instead.

"We made enough room for his mom to stand in the middle of us, and we tossed the clubs around her," said Fe.

That wasn't the first time Whoolery juggled for an audience. He had a colorful history as a professional juggler.

Whoolery worked in the Forbes Center for Performing Arts as the Technical Production Coordinator.

"I was lucky enough to land the one job in the area I'm qualified for," said Whoolery.

It all started when Whoolery began juggling at age 10, after purchasing the book "Juggling for the Complete Klutz" at a bookstore in his hometown of Spencer, W.Va.

"When I suffered on shopping trips with Mother, she didn't always take us to the toy store but to the bookstore," said Whoolery. "I found the loophole; I found the book that was a toy."

After double majoring in public relations and technical theatre, Whoolery started juggling professionally in Boston.

While working as the sound and light supervisor at Merrimack Repertory Theatre, he began street performing at the historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace.

Whoolery has done about 100 street performances and 150 stage performances.

He juggled all kinds of objects, such as beanbags, clubs and the diabolo, also known as the Chinese yoyo. He usually juggled about five beanbags, but the maximum was seven.

Senior Sarah Moyer said she enjoyed watching Whoolery juggle scarves because it was "like an interpretative dance."

His co-worker, Denise Olivieri, agreed with Moyer.

"The scarves are very entertaining because they fall slowly, so Jamie does funny stuff like the running man and Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' in between," said Olivieri.

Fe said her husband worked hard at coming up with artistic juggling acts.

"He thinks of a move and continues to practice it over and over again until he gets it, or comes up with something creative."

Whoolery even juggled dangerous

objects, such as knives and flaming torches. Those kinds of objects were sometimes easier to juggle than the random items people handed him because they were all the same weight.

People gave him anything they had on hand. One attendee asked him to juggle a breath mint, a baseball bat and a teddy bear.

"The Life Saver got a way from me and I went to catch it and leaned right into the baseball bat," said Whoolery.

This year, the juggling parents began passing small objects to their two-year-old son, Philip.

"Now, when I juggle, it's to entertain him."

WORDS Gabrielle Smith
PHOTOS Courtesy of Jamie Whoolery
DESIGN Laura Svites

Nasim Pedrad imitates
Emma Stone in front
of a crowd of students.
Pedrad also imitated Kim
Kardashian and Aziz Anzari.



imitation IS THE sincerest FORM OF flattery

SNL star performs as the university's fall comedian

After joining the cast of Saturday Night Live in 2009, Nasim Pedrad was an integral part of the show. On Thursday, October 17, she made a trip from New York City to perform at Wilson Hall for the University Program Board's fall comedy show.

"We knew we wanted a fall comedian so the Special Events committee looked at available dates and saw Nasim was available," said junior Alejandra Buitrago, UPB's personal relations director. "They voted as a group and decided that she was the best choice."

Junior Alison Wilson enjoyed the show because it was a good stress reliever.

"I love the events that UPB brings, so I knew it was going to be a good event no matter what," said Wilson. "It was a stressful week, so I needed a good laugh and I've seen some of her skits on SNL and I thought it would be a good opportunity to see her for a well-priced show."

One of the most entertaining portions of the show occurred when Pedrad requested six volunteers to do a table read for a cut skit from SNL that she wrote. The skit, "What Are You Even Doing?" brought on loud laughter from the audience when a student who played The Rock came out shirtless, surprising even Pedrad.

"I'll see you at the Kissing Rock later," Pedrad joked with the student.

Pedrad's involvement of audience members was a hit amongst students.

"I thought it was really great how she asked students to come up there and do her skit and show us how it actually goes on," said Wilson.

Pedrad closed the show by answering the audience's questions. One student asked who her favorite SNL cast member was.

"Everyone on the cast are truly friends. There is no backstabbing, no ugliness. We don't do drugs and take shots out of windows like they did in the '70s," said Pedrad.

She eventually added that if she had to pick one, she would choose Taran Killam because they went to University of California Los Angeles together, met when they were just 18 years old and both had dreams of being on SNL.

From her impression of Emma Stone to making fun of her dad's attempts to sound American, Pedrad's show kept the crowd laughing during her one-hour set.

WORDS Courtney Ambrose

PHOTO Julian Williams

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

oh, the HUMANITY

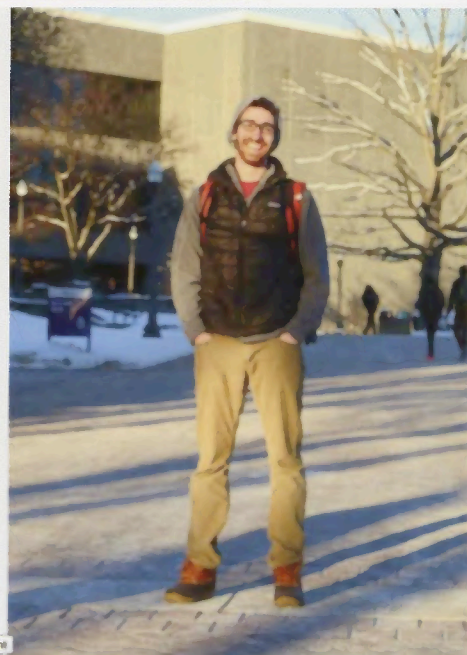
Photographer tells students' stories



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Humans of Madison

Avery.

Charismatic/Adventurer/Optimistic.

"If I play my cards right, I'd love to never leave JMU." — with Avery Hymel.

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Griffin Harrington shows Avery Hymel the shots he just took of him. Hymel's photograph and blurb received over 200 likes on the Humans of Madison Facebook page.

For junior Griffin Harrington, pictures said a lot more than a thousand words. This year, he started the "Humans of Madison" project, an offshoot of Brandon Stanton's blog, Humans of New York. HONY was a photoblog and a bestselling book that featured portraits and interviews of New York City citizens.

"I was inspired by Humans of New York and I wanted to do it last year but never got around to it," said Harrington. "There have been other 'human' blogs that I was inspired by and I wanted to bring it to Madison."

The university was a solid place to start a series of photos because, according to Harrington, there was such a unique community.

"There's so many individuals in New York and that is not the case at JMU, but I try to put unique touches and make it a personalized and community-based project," said Harrington.

Harrington's goal was to bring out the individual quirks and stories about the people he interviewed.

"JMU pushes diversity, but the statistics don't really show it," said Harrington. "When you talk to people individually you don't get that they fall under a certain check box, but you can see their everyday struggles such as 'I just crashed my Mercedes' or 'I can't pay my rent.' However, there's also different ways people find joy."

While Harrington had photographed many people for his project, there were a few that stood out to him.

"My favorite one so far, and the most popular has been a guy named Erwin and his FroG experience," said Harrington. "He told me about how he and this girl had a connection and whether it was a FroG fling and then he said she was his girlfriend. It was an incredibly sweet moment of him opening up."

Harrington admitted that there have been moments where he wished he could have had better conversations, but it was all part of an overarching learning experience.

Recently, Harrington took on another photographer, sophomore Shayla Dhingra, to work on Humans of Madison with him. He hoped to continue building his team.

"The stories people have to share are enlightening and inspiring," said Dhingra. "Simply being able to find an outlet to speak with strangers intimately for a few minutes and create a census of all the different humans on campus seemed like a dream come true."

Dhingra agreed with Harrington that there was much more to students than met the eye, and Humans of Madison helped the different parts of the student population learn more about each other.

"I love that people become comfortable enough to share their stories in a matter of seconds," said Dhingra. "We stress the amount of diversity on this campus everyday but it's hard to sense it visually. When people become accessible through their thoughts and you pair that with their picture, their whole persona transforms. They go from being a complete stranger to someone familiar and palpable."

Humans of Madison was a way for members of the community to see people through a literal and metaphorical lens, and learn things about each other that they might not have known otherwise.

WORDS Julie Hirschhorn
PHOTOS Elizabeth Wertz
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

DEAR JMU...

I have a crush on you

Love was in the air at James Madison University. Or at least in cyberspace.

Two female sophomores, let's call them JMU's very own Cupid and Aphrodite, paved the way for students to declare their love for each other all over campus through their Facebook page "JMU Crushes."

The page had been on Facebook since around the fall of 2012. The two women got the idea from an existing crushes page at Virginia Tech. They thought JMU students needed an outlet for the sparks felt between classmates, and decided to fit posting the flood of messages from students on their page in between classes and schoolwork.

"I wouldn't consider it a priority, it's more like a break," said Aphrodite.

Cupid and Aphrodite read messages every day, but only posted when they had at least a few hours to spend on it. According to them, they received hundreds of messages a day.

However, not all of the messages were filled with the warm fuzzies of love.

Students sometimes wrote in messages with rude or inappropriate comments or even messages about themselves.

Cupid and Aphrodite decided not to post questionable or unrelated messages at all.

"We had to figure that out the hard way because we posted some things that we shouldn't have, and people would report it," said Aphrodite.

Luckily for the rest of the student population, Cupid and Aphrodite said that only about five percent of messages were bad enough to not be posted. The rest were from students honestly trying to make a connection to another person.

"I think that's the most rewarding part, having people feel like they're appreciated," said Cupid.

Cupid and Aphrodite planned to continue the page until their expected 2016 graduation. They hoped to pass it down once they graduated to someone who would appreciate the love that comes from the JMU community.

Until then, student lovebirds on campus were encouraged to post to their hearts' content.

WORDS, PHOTO, & DESIGN Elizabeth Wertz



A student takes time away from studying to browse through "JMU Crushes" on Facebook. As of December, the page had 8,368 "likes" from students.

Signing OFF

Anonymous twitter account keeps a watchful eye on JMU



Two students break the monotony of a Wednesday on campus by walking around dressed as a camel. The idea came from the popular "Happier than a camel on Hump Day" Geico commercial.

Odd things happened on campus this year.

Two students walked around in a camel costume, a woman was caught walking her cat on the Quad and someone ran into Carrier Starbucks dressed as Buddy the Elf and congratulated everyone on the world's best cup of coffee.

That was where JMU Gossip Girl stepped in.

The well-known Twitter account, @SpottedJMU, retweeted students who posted pictures or comments of the interesting things they saw all over James Madison University, all under the persona of the popular book and television series, "Gossip Girl."

"My intentions were just to point out the ridiculous things I was seeing on campus," said JMU Gossip Girl. "I try not to pass judgment but sometimes things just need to be said."

@SpottedJMU would retweet just about anything students sent her way. One of the few things she would not retweet were self-promotions.

"I don't care if you're throwing a rager or if you want

to be student body treasurer," said JMU Gossip Girl. "If someone comes to your party dressed as a chicken or if someone vandalizes your posters on campus, then we can talk."

As of December, @SpottedJMU had 5,328 followers. The account had posted 3,437 tweets of strange and interesting things happening on campus.

"I've gotten some pretty weird things," said JMU Gossip Girl. "Recently someone sent me a picture of a guy peeing in a corner in Carrier. That was next-level ridiculous."

Students should be either wary or open about the weird or funny things they decided to do on campus, if only because @SpottedJMU would catch them in the act.

You know you loved her. XOXO.

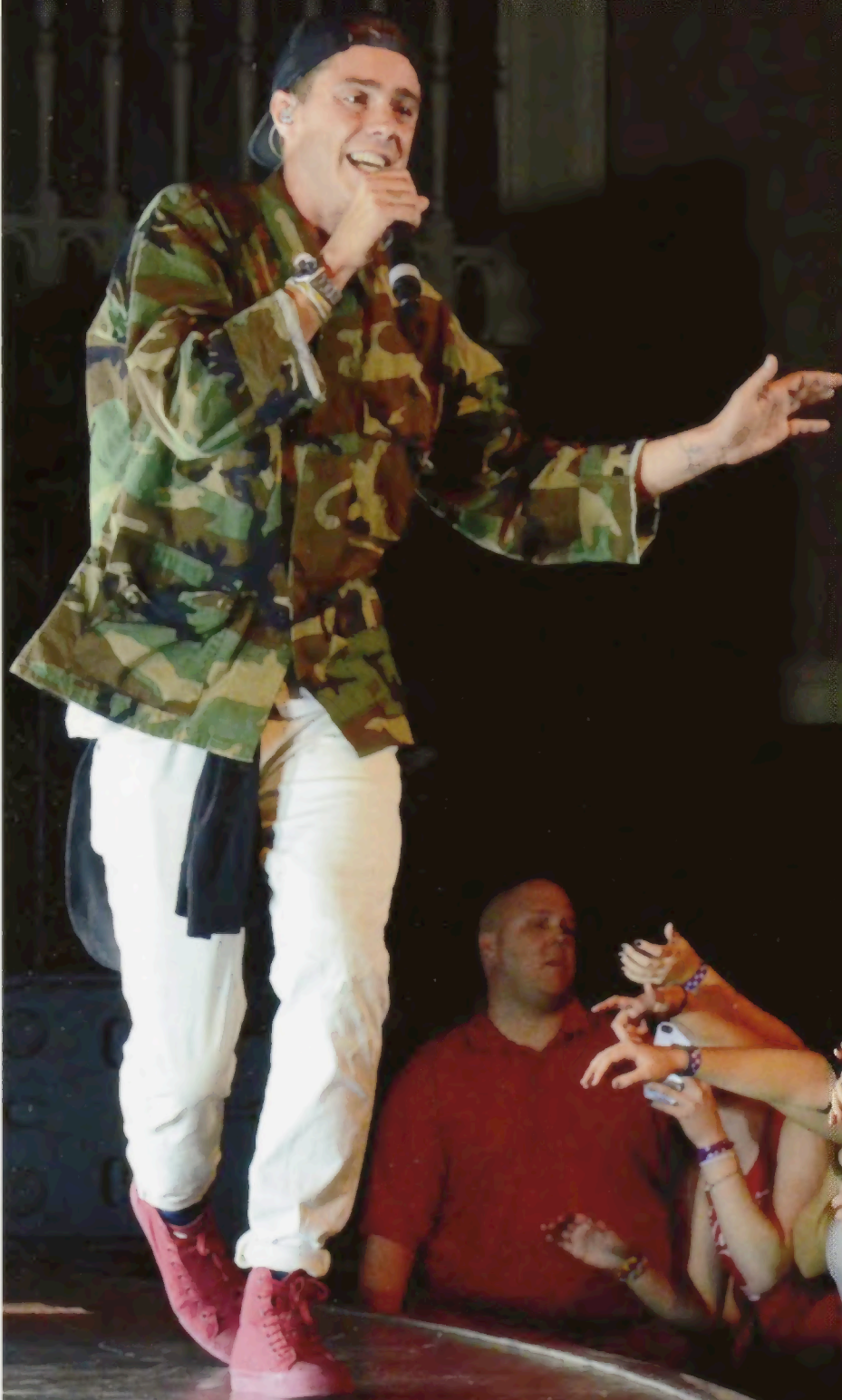
WORDS Elizabeth Wertz

PHOTOS Heather Butterworth

DESIGN Elizabeth Wertz

REMEMBER THE NAME

One rapper entertains many





Sammy Adams entertains a crowd of exuberant students. The show sold out in four hours and was the fastest show to get to sold out in UPE's recent history.

Boston-bred rapper Sammy Adams lit up Wilson Hall's stage on November 14, 2013 at 8 p.m.

In the afternoon, students started lining up in front of Wilson Hall to ensure a spot at the front of the stage. The doors opened at 7:00 p.m. and the first 75 students were able to swarm the stage. Strobe lights flashed vibrant colors, students took pictures and the surround sound filled the auditorium. Wilson Hall was full of energized college students anxiously waiting for the show to start.

DJ Ryan Slocum took the stage as Adams' opener. During and after his set, the crowd went wild. From the pit in front of the stage to the over-looking top section of Wilson Hall, students danced, shouted and repetitively screamed Sammy Adams' name.

The tension rose in Wilson Hall, and red strobe lights bounced off the walls. Sammy Adams entered the stage wearing his black snapback and army jacket, starting off the night with one of his songs, "Fall Back."

"The concert was very hyped for a small venue. It was a great concert for \$15," said junior Ashlyn Ghazzaoui.

Adams continued his performance by playing his popular hits, "Sunset Boulevard," "I Wish," "LA. Story," "I Hate College," "Coming Up," "Coast to Coast" and "Only One." He also played feature songs from his first album, "Boston's Boy," his newest album, "Homecoming" and additional singles and EP's he has released over the past couple years.

He took a few minutes to talk to the students in the crowd about his journey in the music business, shifting from being an independent artist to a signed artist and how college students could make their dreams come true.

Throughout the concert, Adams constantly interacted with the crowd. He played the famous song, "The Harlem Shake" and danced with the students, he sprayed a water bottle toward the crowd and filmed videos of the audience on his iPhone.

Adams closed with his most recent and popular single, "All Night Longer".

"I'm a recent fan, but he had really good music. It was very loud, energetic and I had a great time," said sophomore Brian Wilk.

Adams thanked the crowd for getting crazy with him.

"Thank you JMU. We outta here!" said Adams as he left the stage.

After Adams left the stage, students danced around, sang his songs from the performance and continued to live the excitement.

"He was awesome. The concert was energetic and thrilling. I took the fall survey and voted for him. I got the tickets right away during the presale. My wish came true," said senior Eunice Chun.

Adams and the students made the night one to remember by dancing, singing and getting crazy.

WORDS Paige Lobuts
PHOTOS & DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



The speech team takes a break at a competition and poses for a picture. The team started in 1975, but didn't begin competing on a national level until 1991.



WORDS TO LIVE BY

Speech team creates platform for conversation

Public speaking was terrifying for many people, but for others it was a sport.

The speech team was a group of students who competed in public speaking competitions around the country. They competed in the American Forensics Association and consistently placed at the national level in competitions.

Competitions for speech worked similar to track meets or swim meets. Individuals were scored in events they participated in, which added to the team's overall score. In a competition, there were 11 speaking events split up into three categories: limited preparation, public address and interpretation.

The limited preparation category consisted of events that the contestants prepared for on the day of the competition. The public address category was where the "typical" speeches would be placed. Informative, persuasive and entertaining speeches were most common. The interpretation category was the most theatrical. Dramatic monologues and poetry readings fell into this category.

In the events, the speeches were scored by a judge who did not have very strict guidelines, making the scoring subjective and hard for competitors to maneuver.

"The best thing you can do is to write to the best of your own ability," said senior Kathryn Lese.

Judges could deduct points for anything, from appearance to delivery to content. It depended heavily on the judge as to how well the contestants did.

But for Lese, the speech team was much more than just talking in front of an audience.

"We let ideas live on paper," said Lese. "Speech is about sharing your message through the human element of communication."

Speech also helped promote professional behavior, not just speaking skills.

"It's a professional activity that helps me showcase myself as a professional adult," said Lese.

The entire team took speech seriously. The members were there because they enjoyed doing it, and they tried their hardest to win.

With only 12 members on the team, it was a very close knit community, especially since some of the members went to high school together.

"The team is very close and family-esque," said Lese.

Though it was a small niche in the university community, it had a large impact on the people involved in it.

WORDS George Agrios
PHOTO Courtesy of Kathryn Lese
DESIGN Alison Miles

breaking new GROUND

Professor and students further malaria research

In fall 2009, Dr. Christopher Lantz was given an National Institutes of Health Grant for \$250,000 to research a different parasite, but everything changed once his class made a new malaria discovery during lab.

After the biology professor ran out of normal mice for his parasitology lab, he found an alternative method, and used his "knockout" mice to continue the experiment with his students. Knockout mice were genetically altered to lack a protein called interleukin-3. The protein assisted the immune system in fighting off diseases. After running a trial with the mice, Dr. Lantz found that the genetically altered knockout mice could be a link to a malaria solution.

During lab, Dr. Lantz divided the class into four groups. Two groups had the original mice and the other two had the knockout mice. He had his students conduct tests with the malaria parasite. The lab students infected the original mice and then came back a week later to see the results. The original mice had an enlarged spleen, a symptom of malaria. The other two groups who tested with the knockout mice had a greater change in spleen size.

After Dr. Lantz saw the students' results, he re-conducted the experiment, confirming the unusual results. Dr. Lantz was surprised because there was nothing in literature that indicated the protein had anything to do with malaria. He originally thought that something had occurred in lab.

The protein-deficient mice had a healthier

immune system response to the malaria than the normal mice. The mice lacking the interleukin-3 protein had an increased chance for survival compared to the normal mice.

Dr. Lantz teamed up his longtime colleague friend Ken Roth, a visiting assistant professor of biology. Both professors were graduate students at the Medical College of Virginia in the 1990s. Lantz and Roth believed the malaria project would be advantageous for students because it gave them a real research opportunity.

The professors worked with eight undergraduates on the malaria research project.

Senior Anna Young gained interest for this research after completing a medical mission trip to Panama.

"Dr. Lantz is an encouraging professor, and I enjoy being able to study and understand the disease that affects other countries," said Young.

The professors and students looked forward to getting a better understanding of how the protein functioned, how it impacted mortality, and how not having the protein helped the mice live longer and contain fewer parasites.

In addition to experimenting, Lantz, Roth and students were in the middle of publishing a primary research article in a scientific journal, "Infection and Immunity."

WORDS & PHOTOS Paige Lobuts
DESIGN Elizabeth Wertz



Students of the parasitology class conduct research in their lab. There were a total of eight students working on the research.



Dr. Lantz's students work on their research in the lab. The class planned to continue their research past 2013.

Parade of CHAMPIONS

MRDs perform in Macy's Thanksgiving Parade for the first time in five years

The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade was an iconic event that this year, for the third time, the Marching Royal Dukes participated in. The Tuesday before Thanksgiving Day, 11 buses arrived in New York City with 485 royal dukes. With their rehearsal time sometime soon after midnight on Thanksgiving and performance time only 7 hours later, these dukes had a very different working environment but they couldn't have been more excited.

"We've been looking forward to this for quite a while, it's a great opportunity for all of us," said junior drum major Nathan Saxman. "I'm most excited to show how great of a program we are on a national stage."

The application to be a part of the parade was due a year and a half prior to the event; the MRD's sent theirs in March of 2011. Because of the fantastic quality of the band program and the relationships that were built with the committee over the years, the band was chosen to go, and not only participate but lead the entire parade.

"They are very excited about the size of the band, we are one of the largest bands in the country, it's a show, and they like what we contribute," said Band Director Scott Rikkers.

The band had previously been two times, and once they were accepted, they were allowed to go every five years if chosen.

Preparing for the parade was no small feat either. With 485 band members, there were good amounts of moving parts that needed to be set up and finalized before the big day. In comparison to a normal football game, the time commitment and schedule of activities was very different, and none of the musicians had ever done it before.

"We don't get to sit down with them and tell them how it goes. Mr. Rikkers meets with them on a regular basis and goes through things, but it's just not the same," said senior drum major Brittany Deacon.

The practices leading up to the parade focused more on the routines that would be performed on the day, but before that, the band focused on every part of their season, not just on the Thanksgiving Day Parade.

At the end of the day, the parade was a fantastic opportunity for the marching band; it provided a great experience for JMU because there was no greater spotlight than a national event.

"I'm excited to represent the university, and I think it will show that we do other things than halftime shows," said senior drum major Stacey Kropaczek.

Performing was in all of the MRDs; it was a talent that they all possessed to some extent and proudly showcased on November 28.



WORDS Coryn Coccozza

PHOTO Courtesy of JMU University Marketing
Photography Department

DESIGN Laura Svites



The Marching Royal Dukes pose proudly before their performance in the parade. The MRDs got to lead the parade through New York City on Thanksgiving Day.

SHHHH... it's starting

Students make sure to tune in for popular TV shows

Stop! Did you hear that? It was the sound of AMC's smash hit "Breaking Bad" ending. Let's call it the sigh heard 'round the world, that was followed by a life-altering ending that affected everyone, whether they liked it or not.

"There was such a craze about 'Breaking Bad' that I ignored until the last season," said senior Brittany Frye.

AMC's "The Walking Dead" also quickly reached the top. On the Internet Movie Database's list of top horror TV series, "The Walking Dead" came in at the No. 1 spot, followed by the much-anticipated "American Horror Story."

Although TV show fads changed every year, the number of people who tuned in to watch the shows always increased and the passion for the shows never ceased to amaze.

The university's students became

engrossed with shows and allowed those shows and their characters to seep into their daily lives. They would do anything to be sitting on the couch at the very moment that the show began and would decorate anything visible in their rooms with that show's paraphernalia.

And with the accessibility of Netflix, it was simple for students to engage with a show and do nothing else until they finished every season.

"'Breaking Bad' had characters that you hated but were still rooting for, a unique blend of feelings to makes you unsure who's side you were on," said Frye.

WORDS Colleen Lentile

PHOTOS Danielle Lerer & Rebecca Sullivan

DESIGN Megan Rzepka

Sophomores Zareena Khan and Emily Scott make time to catch up on a season of "Breaking Bad." The show recently finished its final season and quickly became popular on streaming sites such as Hulu and Netflix.





A student displays her "Breaking Bad" fandom on her laptop. Students enjoyed buying stickers like this online to show off their personality every time they opened their computers.

CONCERTS for a CAUSE

Music Industry class promotes and produces music venues

One course doubled as a full-fledged business. In fall 2013, students enrolled in Music Industry 422. They named themselves Apples to Artists and organized music venues for charity.

Professor Mikael Glago, an alumnus, used his unique experience in the music industry as both a performer and promoter to create MUI 422: an interactive concert promotion and production class, which, during the course of a semester, became a legal business, raised funds, booked artists and promoted and produced full-scale concerts.

The students worked closely with local Harrisonburg venues and university performance halls. They produced concerts that were put on at Clementine's and Blue Nile, as well as one at Memorial Hall.

"The goal of the class is to develop a way to independently raise funds, promote events and be able to support yourself," said Glago. "It's directed toward music entertainment, but it holds all the values of pretty much any business through event promotion and management."

In the process of becoming a fully legal entity in less than 15 weeks, students were split up into mini groups. Each group was given opportunities to make connections and network themselves in order to ensure the success of their group.

"They create partnerships with the option of dissolving them afterward and taking full responsibility," said Glago. "The class is trying to establish themselves as agents in this industry. It teaches them that any connection they make is really a business connection, and, therefore, is worth money."

Inspired by Spaghettifest, Glago's charitable summer music festival, every MUI 422 event was also a non-profit. Each semester, students were given the chance to

decide on a charity to donate their earnings to.

"The point of the class is to promote and strengthen the local music scene in Harrisonburg, so we chose to keep our charity of choice local," said junior Tyler Obenshain, a student in the course during the fall semester. "We all took a class vote and Mercy House was the charity we chose."

For students like Obenshain, MUI 422 was much more than just a three-credit course. Its hands-on nature allowed students the unique opportunity to get real-life job experience before graduation, which could be quite valuable.

"It doesn't feel like a class at all," said Obenshain, who hoped to one day work in the music industry. "Booking artists, promoting shows, doing business with venues and agents, then watching it all come together...it's, like, a really amazing job that never gets boring."

Glago's class provided students with a means to gain first-hand experience in the industry, as well as bolstering the local music scene. His unique history in the music business gave students the upper hand as they learned the system through the management of partnerships, booking artists and promotion and production of concerts, both on and off campus.

For these musically-inclined students, MUI 422 served as the real-life "School of Rock."

WORDS Michelle Ciqui
PHOTOS Courtesy of Apples to Artists
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



Members of Apples to Artists take a break from cleaning up after a basketball game. Money from fundraisers went directly to Mercy House.



Gypsy Town and Samantha Elizabeth Turlington perform on WXJM. During the event, Apples to Artists accepted donations to go toward charity.

CLINTON comes to town

The former president visits JMU to support McAuliffe's campaign



Former president Bill Clinton visited the campus to assist in the campaign of Democratic gubernatorial candidate Terry McAuliffe.

Students, professors and Harrisonburg residents alike showed up to the Festival Conference Center as early as 6 a.m., though the rally was not scheduled to start until 10 a.m.

While some were there to see McAuliffe, others were excited to be in the presence of a past president.

"I'm just here to see Bill Clinton," said junior Anna Kressel. "I wouldn't be here if it was only McAuliffe."

Kressel and a friend showed up around 7 a.m. for the opportunity to see Clinton in person.

Communications sciences and disorders professor Kia Johnson met Clinton before and was hoping for a second opportunity to do the same after his speech.

"I met Clinton when I was a student at Howard," said Johnson. "I was one of the few students chosen to go on stage."

Johnson was lucky enough to shake hands with Clinton. But she thought of it as an opportunity to interact with him more.

"I was like, 'Mr. President can I get a picture' and he was like, 'sure,'" said Johnson.

She brought the photo with her to the event and tried to get Clinton to sign it but he wasn't signing any autographs. Clinton was not the only president Johnson has met. She has also shaken hands with President Obama and former president George W. Bush.

Johnson had classes scheduled for that day, but offered her students the opportunity to attend the event instead.

"JMU's mission statement is about preparing students to be informed citizens," said Johnson. "I wouldn't want my lecture to

stand in their way of being informed."

While Clinton was the big draw for many, some students showed up to support McAuliffe in his run for governor of Virginia.

"I'm interested in what Clinton has to say as well as McAuliffe," said senior Adam Rellick. "My family has been big in the McAuliffe campaign for a while."

Clinton accompanied McAuliffe to many different areas in Virginia, hoping to boost the voter turnout for the election. McAuliffe won the gubernatorial election, defeating Republican candidate Ken Cuccinelli and Libertarian candidate Robert Sarvis.

WORDS Dominique Escalera
PHOTOS & DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



Bill Clinton supports Terry McAuliffe at a rally. Clinton's presence was meant to help increase voter numbers.

'TIS THE



SEASON

Ring in the new year



LEFT Junior Zachary Nagourney plays Charlie Brown during Operation Santa Claus. This year's skit explored the true meaning of the holiday season.

RIGHT Into Hymn entertains the audience. The group was one of many a capella groups to perform.

BOTTOM Madison Dance members glide across the stage. The group danced to both pop and Christmas-themed songs.





Every year during the holidays, Student Ambassadors hosted a night of performances by a cappella groups, dance troupes and improv acts, and dubbed it "Operation Santa Claus." The event raised money for the foster children of Harrisonburg by accepting donations from students who attended the program.

This year, the event featured a cappella groups such as Exit 245, Low Key, the BluesTones, Madison Project, the OverTones, Into Hymn, Note-oriety and the university's newest all-female group, Unaccompanied.

Mozaic Dance and Madison Dance troupes provided holiday-themed performances, while Maddy Night Live kept the crowd laughing with their high school-themed skit.

The event raised a record amount of \$5,510, all of which went directly to Rockingham Social Services to benefit foster children in the Harrisonburg area.

Sophomore Victoria Powell attended OSC for the second year in a row.

"I attended Operation Santa Claus this year because I remembered how much I loved last year's show," said Powell. "I loved all of the a cappella groups, improv troupes and the dance teams."

While Powell attended as a spectator, junior Jordan Frary sang on stage with her a cappella group, the BluesTones.

"Performing at Operation Santa Claus gives us the opportunity to support a great cause by doing what we love," said Frary. "I also liked the fact that we got to wear tacky Christmas sweaters."

The a cappella groups held a strong bond through their love of music and singing.

"I love Operation Santa Claus because we get to watch all of our a cappella family perform their sets," said Frary.

While Frary enjoyed watching her a cappella friends perform, Powell's favorite part of the show was Exit 247B Flat Project's holiday-themed singing and dancing performance. The group was made up of the men in Student Ambassadors.

"Those boys are absolutely hilarious and their number really ended the show with a bang," said Powell.

Being able to have a night of fun performances and giving back to the community was what Powell remembered the most about this year's OSC.

"I had no idea simply donating a few dollars while attending such a spectacular show would make such a difference for kids in our community," said Powell.

Whether students were looking for an entertaining show to attend or a way to help out the local community during the holidays, OSC was a great way for them to get in the holiday spirit and spread cheer to the people around Harrisonburg.

WORDS Courtney Ambrose
PHOTOS Griffin Harrington
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



TOP Upstream works a venue with electronic music. Upstream Artist Development worked with all genres of music. **BOTTOM** Senior Mark Fries waits for a show to start. Fries handled all aspects of a show from ticketing to bouncing.





it's all UPSTREAM from here

Student builds a music company from the ground up

One JMU student struck a chord in the music industry.

Senior Mark Fries always had a passion for music. After working in the industry at Empire in Springfield, Va., he decided he wanted to get involved with the business side of things.

Fries had been in a few bands and written music by himself before starting his development company, originally called Mark Bradley Music, in 2012. After more people joined the project, the name changed in the spring of 2014.

"We want to move bands 'up stream' to the next level," said Fries.

Fries and the rest of the Upstream sole proprietorship worked with bands around the state to book venues and concerts and help sell tickets to get the band name out to the masses. They also assisted with graphic design, photography and interviews for the bands they worked with.

Some bands had worked with Fries and Upstream since the beginning.

"He has been growing with the bands that he has been working with and continues to have great relationships with the bands he works with," said Nick Jones.

Jones played lead guitar in His Dream of Lions, an Upstream Artist Development client.

Fries worked his company around school, something he had to pick up as he went. He used whiteboards to monitor his schedule, one with the week's "big picture" and one with each daily to-do list.

"Time management is crucial," said Fries. "It was a big learning curve."

According to Fries, his favorite part of the job was going to new venues and the camaraderie with everyone involved.

"I feel like music is supposed to be fun, and when it stops being fun, it kind of loses its point," said Fries. "If you're not having fun, you should reconsider what you're doing."

However, it wasn't all fun and games. Artist development was an industry dependent on people and relationships, and sometimes, those relationships weren't always perfect.

"It's just a big high school where everyone feels the need to get ahead just by putting someone else down," said Fries. "I've learned to just keep my mouth shut."

But sometimes, that high school feeling made events feel like a community at the same time.

At The Electric Maid in Washington, D.C., Upstream hosted two high school pop-punk bands near the beginning of the company's conception, a night Fries will always remember.

"It was packed. People were crowd surfing and moshing," said Fries. "That was the most awesome communal feeling."

Upstream Artist Development hoped to keep working with bands on their concerts and promotion for the foreseeable future. They wanted to bring bands up to the next level and let them keep their creative juices flowing.

Fries knew this experience would be invaluable to everyone involved in the future.

"Just start doing stuff. Make mistakes and learn from them," said Fries. "Everyone's looking for internships, but the most important thing is to build a résumé. It's not the paper that matters, it's the experience you get and the people you meet."

WORDS Elizabeth Wertz

PHOTOS Courtesy of Mark Fries

DESIGN Elizabeth Wertz

built with LOVE

An engineering class builds a bike prototype for Harrisonburg a woman



Students work on their bicycle design. Each team had a \$400 budget and had complete access to an ISAT lab that had tools and supplies.



Gathered around a long table in the engineering lab, a team of sophomores had their eyes on a couple of unique prototypes with reusable parts. Like vultures hovering over their prey, the team plotted to cannibalize these bikes for their own prototype, but all in good, clean fun.

The engineering class worked hard over the course of the year to construct a working bike for a disabled client, Lena Campbell. Campbell, a bubbly and spunky 21-year-old, had Cerebral Palsy and mild Down syndrome.

The students spent the spring semester in ENGR 232, Engineering Design II, where they were divided into teams of nine and built prototypes for Campbell to try at the end of the semester. Based on what she liked, a final bike would be constructed over the summer.

Campbell came to the university's campus on a regular basis so that the students could observe her capabilities. Because of her disabilities, she could not lift her legs to certain heights, so she had to use her arms to physically lift her legs over anything too high.

"It would be cool if she could get strong doing that. Let's strengthen the muscles she isn't normally using," said Lena's mother, Belinda Campbell, to the group.

Each team was given a \$400 budget and the ability to reuse parts from prototypes of years past. An ISAT lab was turned into a workshop, equipped with all the right tools for the students to use.

"Some of the components we're looking to provide for her are leisure, rehabilitation and we also want our client to be able to operate the vehicle independently," said the team's secretary, Kelsey Lineburg.

Being only 4 feet 10 inches tall, Campbell wasn't tall enough or strong enough to pull the pedals of a normal bike back up to propel her forward while riding.

As of February, the prototype was a three-wheeled design that included a relaxed seated position, reflectors and a canopy to provide some shade. The bike had a low center of gravity to prevent tipping and easy arm navigation because the handlebars were close to the seat at waist level.

It was Robert Nagel's fourth year teaching the class. Although he wasn't able to participate in the program's first year efforts, he played a big role in the design process. The students spent the first semester learning design principles from him, and in turn used what they learned to construct the bikes.

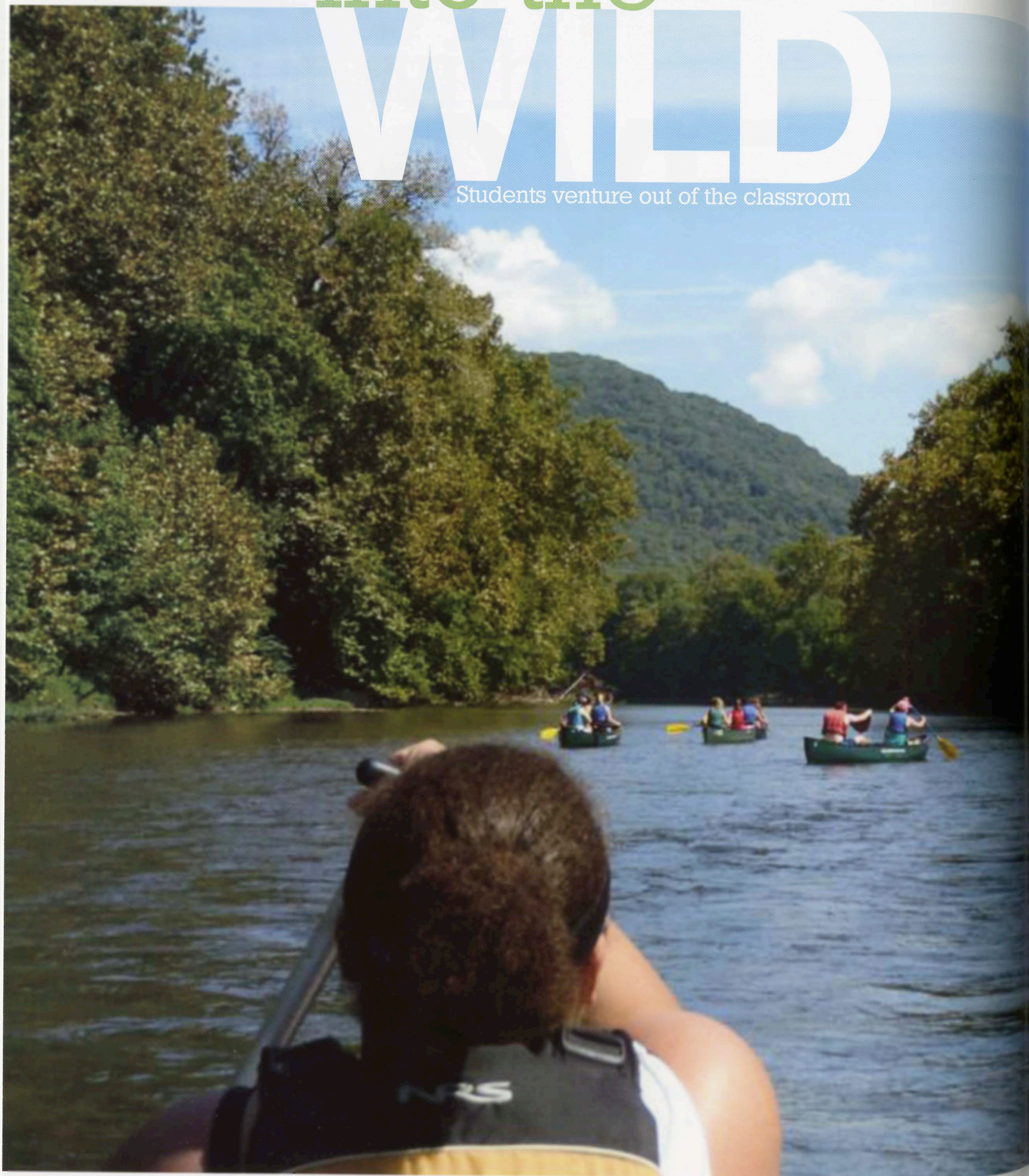
The class was not solely based on completion, but the students needing an operating prototype at the end of the semester, and preferably a happy Campbell, in order to pass the course.

WORDS Brandy Sowers
PHOTOS Courtesy of Kurt Paterson
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

into the

WILD

Students venture out of the classroom





ear Grylls was not the only one who could take on Mother Nature and live to tell the tale.

Since it first opened in 1996, UREC offered adventure trips for students. From partial day trips to weeklong excursions, these trips gave students an opportunity to revel in nature for a budget-friendly price.

The cost depended on the length of the trip and the equipment required. Prices varied from \$5 to \$400.

Trips ranged from the water to the mountains, with everything in between.

Thanksgiving trips to Seneca Rocks, W. Va., and a spring break trip to Joshua Tree National Park in California offered longer rock climbing experiences.

"Adventure activities by nature, both for safety and quality of the experience, are a little bit smaller," said Guy deBrun, assistant director of adventure and TEAM programs.

The average size of a trip was 10 to 20 people, but adventures like skiing at Massanutten could have up to 40 students.

Senior Marissa Estera took a yoga hiking trip in the fall. She and about 10 other students hiked George Washington National Forest, located in the Harrisonburg area.

Estera had always wanted to hike near the university, but had not yet done so. With her roommate already signed up, she was convinced to join.

The afternoon trip lasted approximately four or five hours. At the end of the trail, they reached a plateau where they did yoga.

Estera said some of the highlights were overlooking part of the valley and the beautiful view.

The programs were almost completely student-run, with 14 student adventure leaders. About half of the student leaders were specialized in high-skill courses, such as water sports or rock climbing.

Despite many students' misconceptions that participants must already have these skills, about 80 to 90 percent of the trips were meant for students with any skill level.

Estera could attest, having only participated in yoga a couple of times prior to her trip. But even though she was a beginner, she still enjoyed her adventure.

The Adventure Program also strove to make more tailor-made programs for groups, such as sororities or fraternities, who wanted a specialized experience.

They anticipated more sign-ups as the process moved online. On occasion they filled up, needing to recruit another leader and opening up more seats. A total of 587 students participated last year and the numbers were only expected to go up.

Whether students wanted to go on a relaxing hike or try out a water sport, UREC programs were a fun and affordable way for them to experience the great outdoors.

WORDS Taylor Vollman
PHOTO Courtesy of UREC
DESIGN Lauren Stearns

students TEACHING students

Program allows students to share their expertise

Some students took their education into their own hands.

Senior Rachel Tacci taught her peers "Creative Solutions" for two semesters through JMU Teach.

JMU Teach was an experimental program seeking "to promote non-traditional learning," according to their mission statement. While they offered a variety of events throughout the year, such as Lunch with Twelve Strangers, Duke Talks and The Final Fifteen, the focus of the program was on one-credit, pass/fail courses that were taught by students.

"I've always had a passion for creativity," said Tacci.

Her course was based on "creativity, brainstorming and creative problem solutions." Students focused on open dialogue and discussion, prompted by the focus on creativity and brainstorming. The nature of the subject lent itself to group work in class with little outside homework, except for one problem-solving project.

Another class, "Literary Culture of Facial Hair, Bearded Poets and Writers," explored the relationship between "physical attributes such as facial hair growth and how that correlates with a countercultural mindset," according to its student facilitator, junior Sarah Golibart.

With her love of the Avett Brothers and Walt Whitman, Golibart started to notice a connection between the artists' work and their bearded way of life.

Golibart, who taught 24 students, was nervous to lead a class. However, she enjoyed the level playing field of teaching peers.

"All of them have interests and passions as well, and I was able to teach my passion to other people and I'm sure any of them could have taught their passion to me, too," said Golibart.

Golibart admitted that she struggled with the

grading process. Knowing some of her students, she was forced to be objective and said it ended up taking a long time.

With 25 students, Tacci only knew a couple students in her class before teaching. Her first semester teaching, however, she taught many of her friends, which made for a relaxing experience because she knew they would respect her.

Originally having a fear of public speaking, Tacci said her second semester abated her worries. After realizing her peers took her class seriously and managing to carve out time in her schedule to work on the course, she really enjoyed it.

Before they could teach, Golibart and Tacci took a semester-long course to develop lesson plans, learn about various pedagogical styles and about how to present information to students in a way that made them excited to learn.

JMU Teach courses ranged from "Mobile Photography" to "The Art and Science of Brewing Beer."

With a motto of "share your passion," they offered students an opportunity to share their passions after being taught how to facilitate a course.

JMU Teach was moving out of the experimental phase, making the non-traditional educational experience a staple on campus. Tacci and Golibart, along with a series of other students, continued to reach peers in this way.

Both Tacci and Golibart found their JMU Teach experiences to be highly rewarding and encouraged others to get involved.

WORDS Taylor Vollman
PHOTO Haley Lambert
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



Rachel Tacchi illustrates an idea on the blackboard while teaching class. Tacchi created a discussion-based class to involve students and foster creative thinking in her classroom.

“you’re only as GOOD as your last PERFORMANCE”

Senior music majors reflect on their recitals

Senior Meghan Rader woke up the morning of her senior piano recital with a knot in her stomach and tentative excitement about what lay ahead: an hours worth of memorized piano playing in a crowded concert hall. But she didn't let her nerves get the best of her.

"I think it's really helpful to just know that deep down you've done the hard work and know that you're prepared," said Rader. "And no matter what happens, you're ready."

Rader was ready. She had been practicing for her recital since spring 2013 and practiced over 35 hours a week the entire fall semester up until that point. This was crucial since all senior piano players had to memorize approximately an hours worth of music for their recitals.

"I would spend a couple hours a day just studying my music the way I would study a book and memorizing it the way you would memorize a poem," said Rader.

When she took the stage in late November, Rader said she was nervous but was determined to not let her nerves hurt her performance.

Fellow senior music major Sarah Casey said the same about staying calm during performances. She'd played the flute since she was 8 years old and performed for crowds since the fourth grade.

"I can't imagine myself doing anything else," said Casey. "I have such a passion to perform. I'm really not happy if I'm not performing on a pretty regular basis."

After preparing for her senior flute recital for over five months, Casey performed seven pieces for an intimate crowd of family, friends, her flute teacher, Dr. Beth Chandler and fellow flute players.

"I walked out on stage and heard the applause and heard the cheers and could see my family. It helped me feel more at ease," said Casey. "I can't believe how quickly it went by. I was having so much fun."

Declaring a music major and preparing for senior recitals took immense dedication and passion for music, but both Rader and Casey couldn't have been happier with their performances.

"When you're finished with a performance and it went really well...it's such this good relief," said Casey.

Rader agreed.

"I think my favorite part of playing is just the idea that you can touch others with the music. To me that's the most rewarding thing," said Rader. "I love just being able to relish in the beauty of the music."

WORDS Haley Lambert
PHOTO Claire Fogarty
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



Senior Sarah Casey poses for a picture after her senior flute recital on November 16. Casey planned to attend a graduate school the following fall to earn her Master of Music.



hitting the HIGH NOTES

Senior vocal major takes final bow

While some seniors anxiously prepared for finals and theses, others prepared to take the stage. For vocal majors, senior recitals were a night to remember.

"What is really wonderful about JMU's undergraduate music education program is that we have so many opportunities available to us that allow us to grow and develop as musicians, as well as singers. It is a quality program, and it is every bit what you make of it," said senior Jennifer Weyman.

For Weyman, four years of hard work and dedication led to just one night.

On November 2, in the Forbes Center Recital Hall, Weyman showcased her vocal skills for one hour. As a voice major, she had to overcome tough vocal course loads each year, putting her at risk of possibly overstretching her vocal cords, and not being able to extensively prepare for her senior recital.

According to Weyman, senior recitals were an opportunity for students to perform individually, as well as an opportunity to collaborate with other musicians. However, she believed that the 25-minute recital hearing was the most nerve-racking part of the preparation.

"We present one piece for a panel of the faculty, and then they pick music from our program until we run out of time," said Weyman. "It is all expected to be memorized and performance ready. Because we prepare for that, by the time we get to the actual recital, it is much less stressful and allows us to really enjoy ourselves for the performance."

The most important piece of the performance was the vocalist's repertoire. Weyman wanted to pick pieces that were challenging, but also held special meaning for her.

Her performance featured both classical music like Mozart and modern music like "Of God and

Cats" by Jake Heggie. In addition to these songs, she incorporated a musical theatre set from the musical, "Thoroughly Modern Millie," and performed "How Could I Ever Know" from "The Secret Garden," a song that played a significant role in her life. She dedicated "How Could I Ever Know" to her parents in order to honor her father's passing while she was in high school.

Throughout the night, Weyman performed with her friends in the department.

"My final piece was the opening number for 'Songs for a New World,' which I sang with three friends, Emma Cobb, William Hay and John Marsh," said Weyman. "I had originally learned the song while I was in high school, and I knew I wanted to incorporate it into my senior recital even then. The entire song is about new beginnings, and I thought it very fitting to end my recital with the beginning of something new."

By the end of the night, Weyman felt satisfied with her performance.

"I wouldn't do it differently at all. It was such a wonderful experience, and it was really fulfilling sharing these songs with my friends and family," said Weyman.

Weyman felt thankful to be a part of the music department, and grateful to have the opportunity to perform and showcase the talents she honed during her college career.

WORDS Paige Lobuts

PHOTO Courtesy of Jennifer Weyman

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

all around the **WORLD**

Todo por los niños



Tara Zimak and a fellow student bond with Nicaraguan children. Students spent most of their day working with the children and generally ended their days around midnight.



©JMU NICARAGUAN ORPHAN FUND

A couple dozen students hopped on a plane, flew to the Central American country of Nicaragua, played, served and gave back to Nicaraguan children. Many said the experience changed their lives.

Every spring break, 25-35 students helped orphans in Nicaragua through the Nicaraguan Orphan Fund. This past year, the university partnered with the University of Virginia, the College of William & Mary and Virginia Tech and flew to the city of Managua. There, students developed relationships with the children by serving them meals, assisting with homework and acting as friends and companions.

The fund started as an organization to raise awareness and money for the orphans of Nicaragua. Students also worked with the organization Orphanetwork, which was a Christian based non-profit.

Senior Tara Zimak participated in the university's program during the past four spring breaks and went three other times with her church. Zimak developed a strong relationship with

the children there, having visited a total of seven times.

"Nicaragua has changed my life from day one. I have learned how to love unconditionally and to live the life that is meant to be shared," said Zimak.

A typical day for students like Zimak began around 7 a.m. when they awoke at Casa Bernabe. Their breakfast usually consisted of beans and rice or pancakes. Then they boarded a bus and headed to a feeding center around 10 a.m. While there they served local children lunch, which was provided by organizations like Stop Hunger Now.

After the meal they played games or assisted the children with craft projects. Their meal, which consisted of rice or beans with a tortilla and juice, was most likely the children's only meal for the day. Most of these children brought any leftovers back to loved ones.

"The opportunity to visit Nicaragua has opened my eyes to the ways that I can serve and influence the lives of others...and I really love the food," said junior Alexandra Saal.

After working at the feeding center, students headed to their next location, the orphanage. While there they developed relationships with children by playing games with them or taking them to the pool or the beach. At the end of a full day, Zimak and other students headed back to Casa Bernabe for dinner and "porch time," a time when students could discuss their days with each other.

By the end of the trip, students had developed relationships with specific children who touched their hearts. They also developed a love for the children of Nicaragua and their culture.

"I knew Nicaragua is one of the poorest Spanish-speaking countries, but I had no idea how rich they are in culture and love for one another," said senior Johnathan Trotman.

WORDS Mary Pitts
PHOTOS Courtesy of Tara Zimak
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

young and IN LOVE

Dukes say 'I do'



"Pring by Spring!" was the most important item on Amberlee Taylor's senior bucket list. On October 19, she was able to check that item off.

Taylor was surprised when her then-boyfriend, senior Zachary Carlson, took her into Coffee on the Corner, their favorite coffee shop in Staunton.

Laid on the couch was a blanket he hand-stitched to read "The Carlsons." A coffee table had a vase of roses with small tea lights thrown about and cards labeled with bible verses and "We are going to be the Carlsons."

She froze initially, but spun around to see him down on one knee. Carlson said he was so nervous that he "almost missed her finger."

The ring featured three diamonds: the center stone from her grandmother's ring, an outside stone from his mother's ring and an inside stone he purchased himself.

"So it's like a blending of family and a blending of generations," said Carlson.

Though the couple was young, they believed age would not be an issue. Both came from happy homes with parents who married young.

With Taylor going to graduate school, the couple wanted to be married either before or after she graduated. The couple thought it seemed like an easier transition into married life if they married in the familiar setting of school.

"Zach and I are going to do everything we want, we are just going to do it with our best friend," said Taylor.

Their relationship started their freshman year when they passed each other on their way to class. Eventually Carlson wrote on the then-popular site, LikeALittle.com, about a curly haired brunette. Her Resident Adviser noticed the similarity to Taylor and pointed it out. Taylor posted on Facebook about it, which prompted Carlson to message her, "So the cat's out of the bag!" They went out shortly thereafter and spent three hours at lunch. Over winter break they made their relationship official.

The couple planned an August 9, 2014, wedding. Describing the big day as "DIY," because they wanted to incorporate a lot of handmade details. Carlson made cufflinks for his groomsmen and Taylor handpainted Toms for her bridesmaids.

"It's more expressive of who we are," said Carlson.

With much of the wedding decided on, such as the venue, the caterer and the dress, they had come a long way but still had a long way to go. The future Carlsons were excited for their honeymoon to Quebec and the next step in their lives together.

WORDS Taylor Vollman

PHOTOS Courtesy of Amberlee Taylor and Zachary Carlson

DESIGN Lauren Stearns



For some students, college wasn't just about finding themselves, but finding their other halves.

"It kind of feels like we have always known. I would be hard pressed to remember a time when I did not know that I wanted to spend the rest of my life with Megan, and she feels the same about me," said senior Nicholas Hagans.

Hagans popped the anticipated question to senior Megan Thurston in October.

"I took her to the arboretum the weekend of our six year anniversary. It was our first time going together," said Hagans. "We started by feeding the ducks in the pond right at the entrance and then strolled around for a bit. Near the back of the arboretum, I stopped her on a large bridge that had a nice view of the arboretum. After talking for a bit, I got down on one knee and asked her to marry me."

Marriage was on the table for the couple from the start and it was the lovable qualities they found in each other that strengthened and solidified their bond. Thurston loved Hagans' curiosity.

"He enjoys learning for the sake of learning, which is something I find very admirable," said Thurston.

Likewise, Hagans admired Thurston's motivation and determination.

"She never gives up and pushes herself to do better no matter what she is dealing with. It even helps me want to try harder in things that I do," said Hagans.

The couple reflected on the most enjoyable times they have spent together over the past six years. The memories they

shared added to the reasons why they wanted to grow old together.

"After a fantastic day just being with each other on Valentine's Day, we decided to go to Bob Evans for dessert and hot chocolate," said Thurston. "An elderly couple approached us as they were leaving and started talking to us about how we reminded them of themselves when they were our age. After they left, our waitress informed us that the couple had insisted on paying for our meal."

Because of those loving comments from another couple, Hagans and Thurston knew their relationship was meant to last.

The couple planned to marry in October 2015.

"Megan has recently been accepted into the JMU graduate program for secondary education. I am not quite sure where I will be, but I am applying to several graduate schools this semester in various fields. I should be just about finished with schooling in five years and hopefully about to start a career path as well," said Hagans.

Reflecting back on their relationship, Hagans and Thurston couldn't wait to take on the world as a married couple.

"After everything we've been through in the past six years, I can't imagine wanting to spend the rest of my life with anyone else," said Thurston.

WORDS Paige Lobuts
PHOTO Christina Reilly
DESIGN Lauren Steams

Young and

TOP Professor Allison "Paige" Normand writes on the white board during her class. At the end of the semester, Normand and her class presented the Digital Communication Center to a panel. **BOTTOM** Junior Marta Vucci and sophomore Mariena Luciano talk about their professional websites. Normand taught the students in her class how to properly present themselves in their digital portfolios.



digital PRESENCE

New class helps students digitally prepare for their futures

Students were soon going to be able to get help with digital communication assignments in the same way they could seek help on an essay or speech.

Allison Paige Normand, a media arts and design professor and tutor in the Writing and Communication Centers, taught an experimental, semester-long course in digital learning. She hoped to expand the reaches of the Communication Center to include digital communication.

"A lot of faculty realized that that's the sort of future of writing and communication," said Normand. "But a lot of professors are unsure about how to make that leap."

The class was cross-listed between the departments of communication studies, media arts and design and writing, rhetoric and technical communication. Students taking the course learned how to become digital communication tutors.

"SCOM, WRTC and SMAD majors all have different areas of expertise, so we're finding ways to share that expertise," said Normand. "We talk about design decisions that we have to make, writing techniques and strategies, effective PR and branding. Each of the students gets to talk on behalf of their discipline and expertise."

Normand explained that students taking the class were learning how to create digital portfolios so that when they went into the job market, they would already have an online presence and a way to showcase their work.

Students often made errors when presenting themselves professionally, how to write clearly and concisely and how to connect their sample projects with their skill sets when faced with the task of working with sites that required advanced design knowledge.

"We're using several different content management systems like Weebly, Wordpress and there are dozens of others," said Normand. "Squarespace is a site where it's really easy to do sort of 'drag and drop', 'what-you-see-is-what-you-get,' website design."

At the end of the semester, Normand and her class pitched the idea of the Digital Communication Center to a panel of stakeholders who they hoped would be interested in the center.

"I think this is what higher education needs to make the transition to. And I think by utilizing students' expertise in this way, we can make more progress than just by talking to professors and trying to change their minds about how they've been doing assignments for decades," said Normand. "What we need is a better support system for our students, and sometimes for the faculty, to make sure that we can reach those goals."

WORDS Abigail Short

PHOTOS Katharine Allis

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

UP CLOSE AND country

Country duo connects with fans





"If I don't meet them tonight I might cry," said freshman Jessica Bond after the Love and Theft concert.

Bond and her friends rushed out of the hall immediately after the show to wait in front of Love and Theft's bus in hopes of meeting country duo Stephen Barker Liles and Eric Gunderson.

Earlier, more than 400 students in cowboy boots and flannel shirts raced down the aisles of Wilson Hall to hear Liles and Gunderson play.

Sammy Arriaga, a 21-year-old country singer originally from Miami, opened for Love and Theft with covers and his original ballad "Call Me After Midnight." He stayed afterward to meet fans.

The band entered the stage to a version of Eminem's "Lose Yourself" and launched right into "Runaway," a crowd favorite.

"I've met them twice already," said Bond as she waited anxiously. She scrolled through 10 photos of her and the band at the WMZQ fest this past summer. "They actually know me."

Sixteen other students had a formal meet-and-greet, while Bond stole a couple of seconds with the band before they got on the bus.

Juniors Ashlin Manley and Danielle Guiffre won a free meet-and-greet with Love and Theft.

"We were the third and fourth people in line," said Manley. "We got here two hours before the doors opened because we hoped we could be in the pit."

But the concert had no pit area. Audience members were required to stay in their seats, not that it stopped them from inching towards the stage.

"Are y'all not allowed to come down front?" Love and Theft called out to the crowd after the first song.

Immediately, the audience rushed the stage, reaching their arms up to touch the band and startling University Program Board members who were trying to maintain order.

"There is a limit of 75 people in the pit," said UPB Public Relations Director Alejandra Buitrago.

Security guards directed students back to their seats after the second song.

"Well it was fun while it lasted," Liles told the crowd.

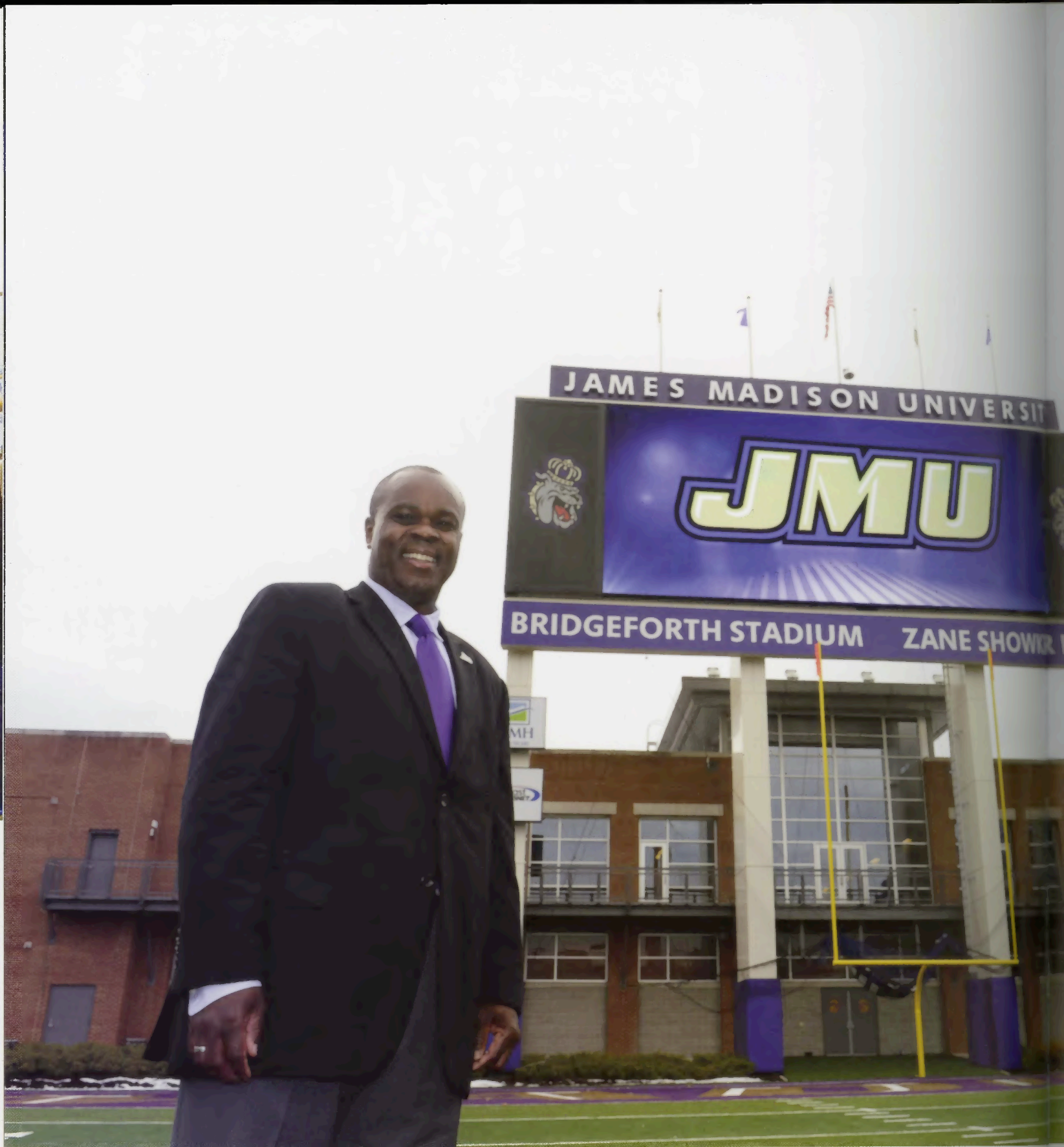
Manley and Guiffre were frustrated that they had to stay in their seats during the show.

"I feel like they wanted us up there," said Guiffre. "And we let them down by staying back."

The crowd danced in their seats and sang along to a steady mix of covers and original songs including Love and Theft's popular song, "Runnin' Out of Air," and the crowd favorite, "Angel Eyes."

Even though students couldn't get as close to the band as they wanted, they still enjoyed the show and hoped another country band would come to the university again soon.

WORDS Dominique Escalera
PHOTOS Rebecca Sullivan
DESIGN Abigail Walter





withering the **COMPETITION**

New football coach welcomed with open arms

The football team finished the 2013 season with a record of 6-6 and 3-5 in the Colonial Athletic Association. The team did not make it to the playoffs, and it was decided that change was necessary. After a strenuous interview process for potential coaches, Everett Withers officially became the new head coach and a forever Duke.

"I see this as a great opportunity for JMU and myself. JMU is a goldmine of opportunity with a tradition of winning," said Withers.

Withers had 26 years of coaching experience under his belt, including Division I universities such as Ohio State University, and National Football League teams, such as the New Orleans Saints and the Tennessee Titans.

"I want to create a culture of champions. I know we are capable of winning. We've done it before, and we will do it again," said Withers. "I don't know that I am necessarily making any changes to how things were done here before, but I am striving to create a team of selfless, well-rounded people, who also win football games."

Withers was an experienced coach, but respect was always a huge factor when any new coach came to the team.

"Respect is definitely something that players need for a coach in order to have a successful season," said redshirt senior Titus Till, a safety for the Dukes. "Coach Withers is new to JMU, but he is anything but new to football, and he is very familiar with winning. We're all very excited to have him here."

The team was already preparing for the upcoming season, with early morning runs and "Super Tuesdays," which entailed lots of heavy weights and running.

When asked about the upcoming season, Withers delivered a positive message to the student body.

"I want to give the students an exciting, winning style of football," said Withers. "We should be the best offense, the toughest defense and the fastest special teams on the field every time. I want the games to be exciting to the point that everybody wants to come to all the games, including the away games."

WORDS Matthew Sackett

PHOTO JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Christina Reilly

we will ROCK YOU

Carrier Librarian participates in local roller derby team

At first glance, one might not have put a Carrier librarian and roller derby together. However, librarian Paula Kiser connected the two. She was a veteran member of the Rocktown Rollers, Harrisonburg's women's roller derby team.

Since 2008, women's teams had been skating in intense competitions all over the nation. Kiser's derby team was a league under the Women's Flat Track Derby Association, which was the international governing body of women's flat track roller derby. The WFTDA had leagues all over the United States and held several competitions during their season, which usually ran from February to November.

"I started in June of 2008," said Kiser. "I got badgered into coming to a practice by a friend and after that I was hooked."

Kiser said that her love for the sport came from the fact that it was so open and welcoming to new skaters.

"If you decide to play a sport like volleyball or softball as an adult, then you're at a disadvantage because most of the people on those teams have been playing for a long time," said Kiser. "But with roller derby, you're on an even playing field because almost everybody is new."

According to Kiser, the team roster consisted of approximately 14-15 people, but that number fluctuated because people left, got injured or went away to school.

While the typical age demographic was between 18 and 45, Kiser said that there was definitely a variance in age on her team.

"We have a 'Fresh Meat' program for participants who aren't 18 yet," said Kiser.

The program trained new players and minors.

"[Roller derby is] becoming more physically intense for women and is really raising the bar," said Kiser.

The Rocktown Rollers not only experienced physical challenges, but mental ones as well.

"You're simultaneously playing offense and defense," said Kiser. "It's a lot to think about—especially when someone is always trying to clobber you."

Kiser enjoyed how tightly knit the roller derby community was. Domestic teams were linked together, and Kiser said that often times, if skaters from other areas were away on business or vacation, they would ask to be a guest skater on that town's team.

"It's fun because you always get a new perspective on people, drills and strategies," said Kiser. "And you get a built in friend network everywhere."

Roller derby was a unique sport for women that gained more popularity. Nevertheless, it took determination, diligence and dedication.

"Every time we skate, it is hard work paying off," said Kiser. "Every time we are on the track and playing another team and a strategy comes together, it is little things like that which make me stay."

WORDS Julie Hirschhorn

PHOTOS Courtesy of Rocktown Rollers

DESIGN Abigail Walter



TOP The two teams gather before starting the match. To score points, "jammers" had to lap opposing team's members while "blockers" tried to help the jammers progress through the pack.

BOTTOM Rocktown Roller members block another player during a bout. The players all adopted fierce personas with personalized names like *Revengea d'Nerd*.

DUKES: DEFINED

Students carry on university traditions



Loud cheers, bam-bam noises and music from the Marching Royal Dukes engulfed Bridgeforth Stadium on game days.

Students, family and visitors packed into 25,000 seats for approximately three hours to watch football, overflowing the stadium once the gates opened.

The traditions during football games, whether they were flying streamers or the faceoff between mascots, might not have been unique to the university, but they did create a feeling of camaraderie and excitement.

The mascot pumped up the crowd while the real Duke Dog always made an appearance. The cheerleaders chanted words of encouragement and the football players worked hard on the field. And all this time, the videographer panned sections for shots on the big screen.

"Being featured on the Jumbotron at one of our games is an exciting experience, especially if it's a big rivalry

or a televised game," said junior Emily Tait. "Even though it's only up for a few seconds, we all love going crazy with our friends and showing off our Duke Dog pride."

These made home football games unique. The spectators created an atmosphere that took over the entire stadium and infiltrated the entire campus.

"Football games are such a demonstration of our school spirit," said junior Savannah Smith. "The throwing of streamers after every touchdown is something so unique and is by far my favorite thing about games. They just pull together all my favorite parts of JMU; the 'we bleed purple,' the family feeling of cheering with everyone around you and the energy of the school."

Games were a time when everyone associated with the university, such as the faculty, students, donors and the community, could come together as one. The spectators' actions and spirit showed visitors how the community treated itself and others.

One of the traditions during a game that exhibited the university's ideology was the spirit wear.

Fans wore purple in order to "Purple Out" the stadium. At games, students painted their faces purple and yellow, wore football jerseys, purple and gold beads and some of the men even painted letters on their chests. This spirit wear united fans and brought the stadium together.

"My favorite part is when we score our first touchdown and the whole stadium is showered with yellow and purple streamers," said sophomore Katia Lizarraga.

There was a strong sense of pride, community, respect and integrity, which was evident during football games.

WORDS Rebekah Pitts

PHOTOS Rebekah Pitts and JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Abigail Walter



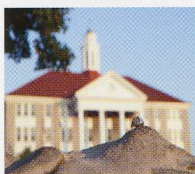
LEFT Members of the Student Duke Club storm the field before the first home football game. Students were adorned with purple and gold clothes, jewelry and props. **TOP** The Duke Dog entertains the crowd at the JMU Football Cancer Awareness Game. He was sporting a shirt that said "Think Pink. Bleed Purple and Gold." **BOTTOM** Duke V, or Seigle, runs onto the field during a home football game. Seigle showed his pride by wearing a dog-sized football jersey.

THROUGH YOUR LENS

The Bluestone's student photography contest, featuring...



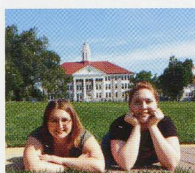
Family Weekend
by JMU Photography Services



Legacy & Tradition
by Laura Quintero



Untitled
by JMU Photography Services



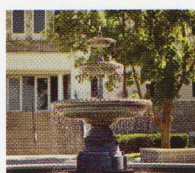
On the Quad
by Monica Ahir



July
by JMU Photography Services



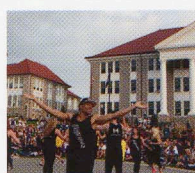
MRD Magic
by Laura Quintero



Untitled
by JMU Photography Services



Yippy
by Laura Quintero



Homecoming Pep Rally
by JMU Photography Services







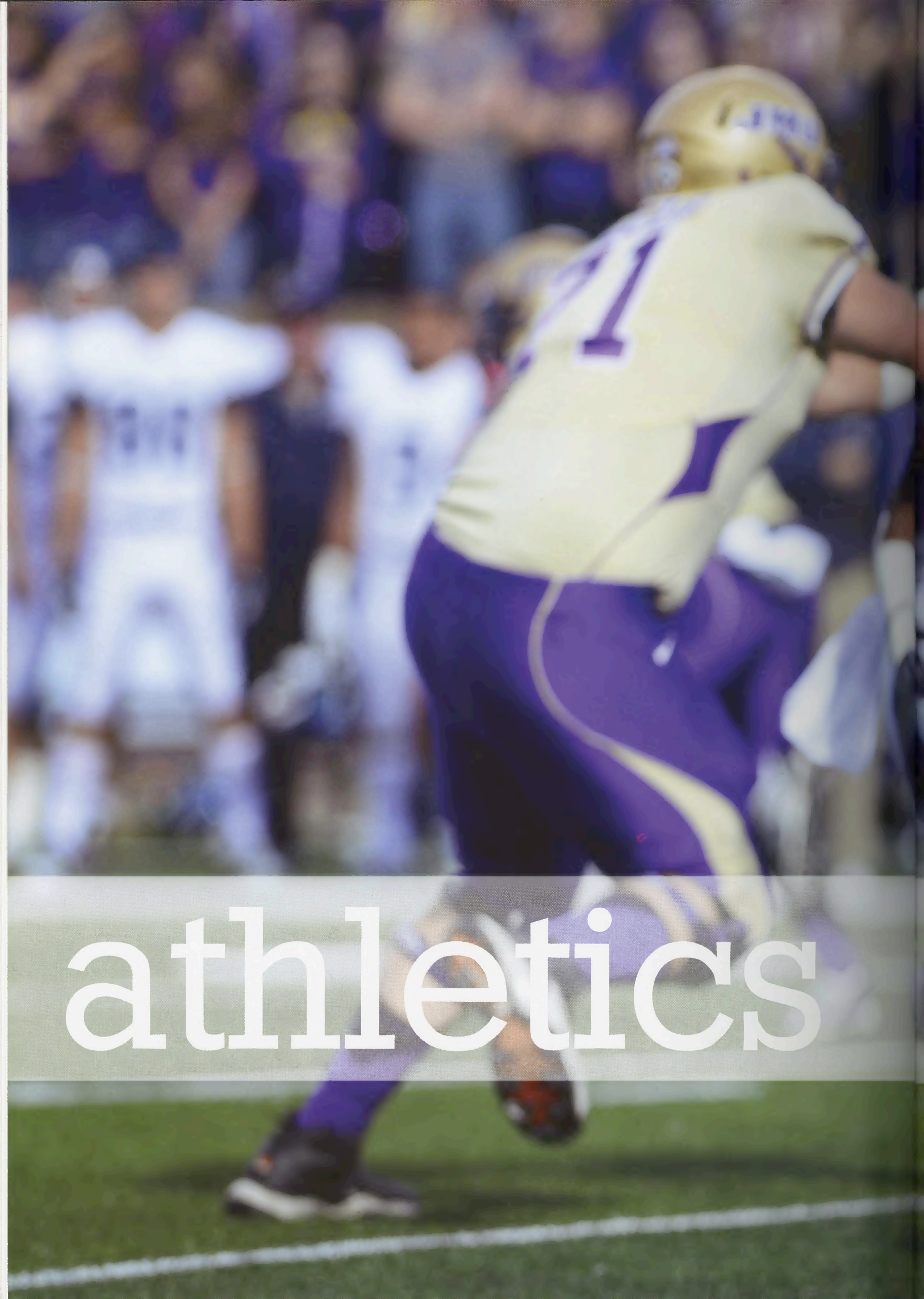












athletics



an INTERNATIONAL affair

Men's tennis team gains competitive edge

Many sports teams at James Madison University had athletes that came from different places across the country, but JMU's men's tennis team had athletes that came from around the world. The team was composed of nearly all international students that came from different countries across the globe including Australia, Canada, Mexico, Germany and Sweden. The fact that they were all in the same position and going through the same experiences brought them closer together.

Freshman Miljan Ruzic from Sydney, Australia, heard about the tennis team when the university contacted him and asked him to join the team.

He did some research on the school, but his hometown friends' high opinion of JMU was what really helped him make his decision.

"At first, I was a bit nervous coming to JMU, having never been here before," said Ruzic. "But as time has gone on, I feel more and more at home. Many people at JMU are interested in getting to know the team and how diverse we are coming from all corners of the globe."

Freshman Niels Kathol from Bonn, Germany, heard about JMU's tennis team through a sports scholarship agency in Germany. Playing college tennis was always his dream, and after reviewing his options, he thought JMU was the best out of them all.

"The beginning was very hard for me because of the language and different culture," said Kathol. "But now I am starting to like it more. The team has great feeling and chemistry and they have helped me get to know people."

Both Ruzic and Kathol believed that the fact that they are all international students has helped them bond as a team. Whether it was homesickness or homework, they were able to help each other by offering each other motivation and support.

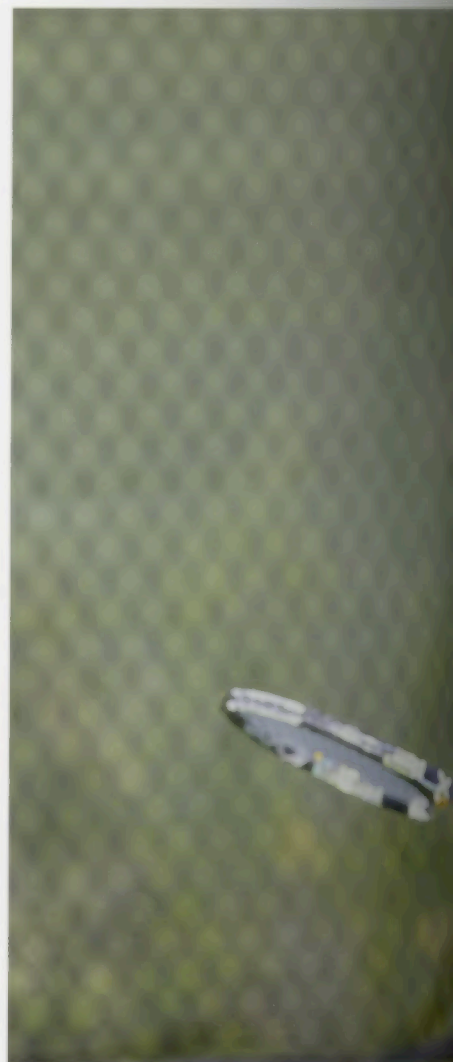
"The first tournament showed us areas we need to work on," said Ruzic. "But we are a young team and I'm sure in the future these little problems will be fixed."

Through encouragement and working together, the team looked forward to a successful year both on and off the court.

WORDS Stephen Wildemann

PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan





FIRST ROW Walter Smith, Miljan Ruzic, Alexander Berdnikoff, Robert Stirling. **SECOND ROW** Assistant Coach Zachary Watson, Niels Kathol, Sebastian Salinas. **THIRD ROW** Brett Moorhead, Maximilian Branth, Head Coach Stephen Secord.

RIGHT Freshman Sebastian Salinas sends the ball back to his opponent during the Elon Fall Invitational. Salinas enjoyed a 3-set win over a Georgia State opponent. **LEFT** Freshman Niels Kathol readies to return the ball. Kathol was ranked top-30 in Germany amongst tennis players born in 1995.

serving up new TALENT

New players bring exciting dynamic to team

The Liberty Fall Classic was the first tournament of the fall season for the women's tennis team. The upperclassmen were able to test out their new and improved skills, and the freshmen got their first chance competing at the collegiate level.

After the tournament in Lynchburg, Va., the team came home with two singles-flight championships and one doubles-flight championship.

"I started off the tournament well, but I struggled as the competition got tougher," said senior Jacqueline Palmucci. "I definitely took away some things that I need to work on in order to prepare more adequately for the spring season."

Altogether, there were four new players on the team, three freshmen and one transfer student.

"It's nice to have different faces on the team and it's nice to learn everyone's personality! It's a whole new team, but it's also really exciting," said sophomore Taylor Pinchoff.

The team was proud of its new members.

"I would say we definitely have a younger team. It's more intense and we have more drive. We work harder and push each other more than we did last year," said Pinchoff.

With a revitalized group of seasoned players and its new young weapons, the team was confident that they would have many successful matches to come.

WORDS Courtney Ambrose

PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



FIRST ROW Rachel Nelson, Cara Wirth, Sarah Khan, Emily Bradshaw. **SECOND ROW** Taylor Pinchoff, Jacqueline Palmucci, Ruxandra Andriescu, Alexandra Huie.

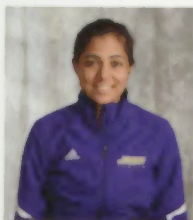


Senior Ruxandra Andriescu prepares to return the ball during a game. The team's playing dynamic changed with the addition of four new players.



Sophomore Cara Wirth strikes the ball with a powerful backhand. Wirth was a crucial member of the team since her first year.

MEET THE *Newbies*



SARAH KHAN was from Pakistan and transferred from New Mexico. A solid baseliner, she used the weaknesses of her opponent to her advantage.



EMILY BRADSHAW, freshman, brought craftiness and fast-paced play to the team, according to her teammates.



RACHEL NELSON, another freshman, was a complete powerhouse according to Jacqueline Palmucci.



ALEX HUIE was a smart aggressor and was a good player all-around," said her doubles partner, Taylor Pinchoff.



FRONT ROW Logan Quimuyog, Trent Cundiff, Stanford Bradshaw, Robert San Martin, Joshua Wyatt, Logan Corrigan, Kyren Parrott, Mark Gunst. **SECOND ROW** Jeffrey Gregory, Aaron Hoover, Chad Carroll, Nicholas Merullo, Christopher Hanson, Kyle Weston, Brandon Withers, James Pearson, Kevin Feehan. **THIRD ROW** Coach Spanky McFarland, Assistant Coach Ted White, Brian Lawler, Tyler McFarland, Conner Brown, Michael Howerton, Luke Suttmillier, Tyler Carroll, Brandon Cohen, Jason Kuhn. **FOURTH ROW** Christopher Huffman, Kevin Husum, Trey Jones, Michael Evans, Patrick Toohers, Brett Johnson, Taylor Krugh, Matthew Tenaglia.

Senior Trent Cundiff sees his target as he prepares to strike a batter out. Cundiff was a co-captain and closed out several games with his pitches.

PRESSURE BALL

Baseball team learns important lessons for future seasons

After being postponed in the third inning because of rain, William & Mary led the Dukes 12-3 in the Colonial Athletic Association winners' bracket game on May 23.

"The delay actually worked in our favor," said senior co-captain Trent Cundiff. "Our coaches prepared us for the next day so we were ready to come out and fight."

And fight is exactly what the Dukes did when the game resumed the next morning. At the top of the ninth inning, junior Tyler McFarland hit a two-run homerun, giving the Dukes an 18-16 lead over William & Mary. Then, with the help of Casey Goss' two-out RBI single, the Dukes reached a 19-16 lead.

"We lost in the bottom of the last inning," said Cundiff. "But everyone saw we have what it takes to never give up and never quit."

While the team wanted to go further in the CAAs, they ended their season having learned an important lesson.

"Toward the end of the season we

knew it was win or go home," said Cundiff. "Just knowing that if we lost a couple more games we wouldn't have a post season—it amplified everything. We learned how to play pressure ball."

Learning to play pressure ball was important for their upcoming season. With 56 games against top competitors, the Dukes needed to be prepared.

"I'm looking forward to our competitive schedule," said junior Aaron Hoover. "We have a lot of traveling. It should be tough."

WORDS Claire Fogarty

PHOTOS JMU Athletics
Communications

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



A player follows through on a swing, missing a pitch by inches. With a firm stance and form, this batter contributed to many wins.

SCOREBOARD

Date	Opponent	Result
02/15/13	Coastal Carolina	L 3-4
02/17/13	Coastal Carolina	L 7-8
02/20/13	Longwood	L 9-11
02/23/13	Binghamton	L 4-8
02/23/13	Binghamton	W 9-1
02/24/13	Binghamton	L 1-5
02/24/13	Binghamton	W 14-1
02/27/13	Maryland	L 5-10
03/01/13	Hartford	W 11-3
03/02/13	Hartford	W 10-2
03/02/13	Hartford	W 6-2
03/03/13	Hartford	W 11-9
03/09/13	Hofstra	W 12-11
03/09/13	Hofstra	W 18-3
03/10/13	Hofstra	W 10-6
03/12/13	VMI	W 11-8
03/15/13	UNCW	W 17-5
03/16/13	UNCW	L 1-9
03/19/13	Maryland	L 7-10
03/22/13	George Mason	L 2-11
03/23/13	George Mason	W 11-4
03/24/13	George Mason	W 5-2
03/27/13	Liberty	W 21-4
03/29/13	Northeastern	L 5-12
03/30/13	Northeastern	L 3-8
03/31/13	Northeastern	L 0-5
04/02/13	VMI	L 7-9
04/05/13	Old Dominion	L 4-7
04/06/13	Old Dominion	L 5-6
04/07/13	Old Dominion	L 2-14
04/09/13	Liberty	L 11-12
04/12/13	William and Mary	L 3-5
04/13/13	William and Mary	L 8-9
04/14/13	William and Mary	L 4-8
04/16/13	Radiard	W 8-6
04/17/13	Longwood	W 6-4
04/20/13	Georgia State	L 12-14
04/20/13	Georgia State	W 9-8
04/21/13	Georgia State	W 8-5
04/24/13	University of Virginia	L 8-16
04/27/13	George Washington	W 5-3
04/27/13	George Washington	L 2-5
04/28/13	George Washington	W 14-5
05/07/13	North Carolina	L 5-9
05/08/13	North Carolina	L 1-6
05/11/13	Towson	L 7-11
05/11/13	Towson	W 16-3
05/12/13	Towson	W 8-7
05/14/13	Liberty	W 13-4
05/16/13	Delaware	W 11-6
Overall		25-30
CAA		11-15

SCOREBOARD

Date	Opponent	Result
02/15/13	Akron	W 3-2
02/15/13	College of Charleston	W 6-0
02/16/13	East Tennessee State	L 4-5
02/16/13	Towson	W 11-1
02/17/13	Syracuse	W 8-0
02/22/13	DePaul	W 7-5
02/22/13	UC Davis	W 4-3
02/23/13	Indiana	L 1-3
02/23/13	USF	W 1-0
02/24/13	UL Lafayette	L 1-0
03/01/13	Pittsburgh	L 2-3
03/01/13	College of Charleston	W 7-0
03/02/13	Illinois State	W 3-2
03/02/13	Michigan	L 1-9
03/03/13	Oregon	L 1-12
03/08/13	Middle Tennessee State	W 13-0
03/08/13	Georgetown	W 8-2
03/09/13	Georgetown	W 10-1
03/09/13	Middle Tennessee State	W 8-2
03/10/13	Coastal Carolina	W 2-0
03/13/13	Virginia	W 3-2
03/13/13	Virginia	W 10-2
03/15/13	Fordham	L 1-12
03/20/13	Princeton	W 1-0
03/20/13	Princeton	W 2-0
03/23/13	Towson	W 5-2
03/23/13	Towson	W 6-0
03/24/13	Towson	W 3-1
03/29/13	Drexel	W 8-0
03/29/13	Drexel	W 11-1
03/30/13	Drexel	W 11-1
04/03/13	North Carolina	L 0-6
04/03/13	North Carolina	L 3-5
04/06/13	UNCW	W 12-1
04/06/13	UNCW	W 11-2
04/07/13	UNCW	W 6-1
04/10/13	Virginia Tech	L 2-5
04/10/13	Virginia Tech	W 2-1
04/13/13	George Mason	W 3-2
04/13/13	George Mason	W 4-0
04/14/13	George Mason	W 8-0
04/17/13	Liberty	W 5-1
04/17/13	Liberty	W 12-2
04/20/13	Delaware	W 6-1
04/20/13	Delaware	W 3-2
04/21/13	Delaware	W 6-0
04/27/13	Hofstra	L 0-1
04/27/13	Hofstra	L 0-1
04/28/13	Hofstra	L 4-9
05/03/13	Georgia State	W 7-3
05/03/13	Georgia State	W 5-4



TOP ROW Heather Kiefer, Brittany Jeans, Reba DePriest, Jasmine Butler, Miranda Kemp, Kaitlyn Barbour, Megan Shinaberry. **MIDDLE ROW** Jalyn Ford, Sarah Mooney, Anna Klumpp, Morgan Heath, Catherine Clavin, Haley Johnson, Cassidy Clayton. **BOTTOM ROW** Erica Field, Hannah Hayes, Haley Widner, Caitlin Sandy.



Girls just wanna

HAVE FUN

Softball team makes it to regionals

Dark storm clouds raced across the sky and red dirt swirled through the air, stirred up from the softball pitch by strong winds. The stands were unusually calm, the audience was waiting out the rain delay to watch James Madison University battle it out with Longwood University for a place in the Regional Championships.

But in the JMU softball team's dugout, things were anything but quiet.

"We were leading Longwood and we had a rain delay," said sophomore Heather Keifer. "We had to keep everything up in the dug out and we were going crazy in the dug out, jumping up and down and singing."

The team's high energy and enthusiasm paid off: the women beat Longwood 5-0.

"We came out after the rain delay and just exploded and scored a bunch of runs," said Keifer. "It was the first time JMU has won in regionals."

Despite their win, the team wasn't officially recognized as being in the regional competition until later that day.

"We went to a restaurant to watch the viewing show and it was literally like we were on the edge of getting it or not and we had no idea. Then we got in and it was crazy," said Keifer. "We got the first at large bid for our school and at our conference and it was incredible. It was an awesome moment."

The win meant a lot to the team, who had gained a new head coach, Michael "Mikey" Dean, with

different leadership techniques.

"He really pushes us to do things we've never done before," said junior Caitlin Sandy. "The whole culture of the team was different. He made us push our limits and because of that we became a closer knit team and mentally stronger."

Despite intense practices and competition—both on and off the field—the team was just looking to have fun playing their favorite sport and making some memories.

"Guys, I think, a lot of the time, need to win to have fun," said junior Cassidy Clayton. "But girls need to have fun to win. And we have a lot of fun."

WORDS Haley Lambert

PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Alison Miles

Sophomore Heather Keifer follows through on a pitch against a batter from Eastern Mennonite University. Keifer finished the season with 65 strike-outs.



Junior Caitlin Sandy makes a quick dive to catch a line drive down the third base line. At the end of the season, Sandy made second team All-CAA.



Junior Cassidy Clayton fields a ground ball hit to the outfield. During the 2013 season, Clayton started 27 games in the outfields.

a day in our SHOES



Track and field athletes line up at the starting line before a race. At competitions the team's bond was especially strong.



ROW 1 Emily Cole, Tessa Mundell, Laura Dobbs, Alison Huschke, Jenna Flickinger, Nia Jones, Tiel Westbrook, Lillie Brown, Carol Strock, Kelsey Seymour. **ROW 2** Rachel Watkins, Justice Seward, Destiny Simmons, Maria Snyder, Ebony Owusu-Sampah, Kathleen Stewart, De'Ana Forbes, Rachel Hagen, Carrie Payne, Kelsey Langton, Meghan Malloy, Stacey Nobles, Katie Harman, Morgan Sheffer. **ROW 3** Jasmine Waddell, Nicole Gilbert, Caroline Morris, Abby Duncan, Summer Walter, Katie Brendli, Kristen Landry, Kristen Greene, Kennedy King, Annie Johnson. **ROW 4** Ashley Williams, Adrienne Alexander, Nicole Rossi, Morgan Crewe, Anna Harpster, Ciara Mori, Erin Lopresti, Julie Strange.



Track & Field gives it their all

When people thought of track and field, what did they think about? Maybe they thought about a co-ed sport where the athletes competed in various events, which involved running, jumping and throwing. But, here at the university, all of our runners, jumpers and throwers were female. And our female athletes weren't playing any games.

As the athletes participated in an individual sport and trained at many different times of the day, it was difficult for the ladies to get together for team bonding. But together and apart they made fierce competitors.

Senior Ashley Williams and her teammate, junior Nicole Gilbert, displayed a passion for their events that mirrored their skills and abilities.

Williams, an athlete who found her love for the sport at field day in elementary school, suffered from a wear-and-tear injury to her knee. She ran the 100 and 200 meter dash, as well as the 4x100, and 200 relays. And as a member of the Colonial Athletic Association Conference winning team in 2012, Williams hoped that she would be able to compete in her last year on the team. She continued to exemplify an exceptional athlete who refused to give up.

Gilbert competed in the heptathlon and the pentathlon, both of which included a variety of activities such as high jump, shot put and running events. Gilbert was ranked fifth in the university's history for the pentathlon and had a goal of moving up in the standings in the next season.

"I have a lot of room for improvement, since I only started [these events] in 2013," said Gilbert.

She came to the university as a long jumper and hoped to be in third place by the end of the 2014 season. She also hoped that the track and field team would win the CAA Conference in 2014.

Williams and Gilbert continued to be role models of success and perseverance in their sport and at their university.

WORDS Colleen Lentile

PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Alexandra Roadley



Junior Kristen Landry takes the lead in a relay race. Landry also ran cross country in the fall.



Junior Stephanie Finley attempts to keep the ball away from her opponents. Finley was named CAA Player of the Week on April 14, 2013, and was the team leader in free-position goals for the 2013 season.

passion, pride and

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Lacrosse team plans to cradle their way into the CAAs

Senior Leah Perrotta was used to being on top. When the previous season for the women's lacrosse team ended earlier than expected, it only convinced her to try harder.

Perrotta had been on the lacrosse team since her freshman year, and had made it to the championship game each year before the 6-4 loss at the semifinal game against Hofstra University.

"Now that it's happened, I think it's the best motivator we could have," said Perrotta.

Despite the devastating results, the team geared up to get ready for the next season.

"We're coming back full force," said fifth-year senior Megan Piotrowicz.

Piotrowicz saw two Colonial Athletic Association championships in her first four years on the team, and was looking to end her ride with another one.

To help the team meet this goal, the women practiced six days a week during the regular season. With all this time spent on practicing the game, time

management was key.

But the experience of being a member of this goal-driven team made it all worth it.

"If I had five more years, I would do it all over again," said Piotrowicz.

According to Piotrowicz, the team was like a family. She considered it a rewarding experience to fight for a common goal with her teammates.

Perrotta said the best part about being a member of the lacrosse family was the passion and pride that her sisters exhibited throughout her years on the team.

"It's not just about lacrosse," said Perrotta. "But we're pretty good at it."

WORDS Elizabeth Wertz

PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



FIRST ROW Taylor Gress, Emily Poelma, Betsy Angel, Emily Plillion, Hannah Jablonski, Margaret Tucker Fogarty, Anne Martin, Leah Monticello.
SECOND ROW Abby Hendrix, Leah Perrotta, Mary Jane Toohey, Emily Piotrowicz, Emily Rhoads, Shelby Robinson, Amy Roguski, Julianne Giles, Kaci David.
THIRD ROW Volunteer Assistant Coach Cally Chakrian, Assistant Coach Samantha Eustice, Schylar Healy, Jenna Mertz, Stephanie Finley, Jordan Wilkins, Alexis Cross, Hannah Verschoore, Alexandra Revel, Elizabeth Relfsnider, Head Coach Shelly Klaes-Bawcombe.
FOURTH ROW Kaci Curwin, Jaclyn Gordon, Casey White, Maura Grady, Christina McCarthy, Assistant Coach Emily Garity.

SCOREBOARD

Date	Opponent	Result
02/21/13	California	W 11-5
02/27/13	Virginia Tech	W 9-8
03/02/13	Fairfield	W 13-8
03/06/13	Penn State	L 12-13
03/13/13	Richmond	W 13-12
03/16/13	Loyola	W 9-8
03/20/13	Virginia	L 3-10
03/23/13	Maryland	L 8-18
03/27/13	George Mason	W 13-7
03/30/13	Stanford	L 9-14
04/05/13	Delaware	W 8-4
04/07/13	Towson	L 10-16
04/12/13	Hofstra	W 9-8
04/14/13	Drexel	W 16-9
04/19/13	William & Mary	W 18-7
04/21/13	Old Dominion	W 17-2
Overall		11-5
CAA		6-1

hockey family plans to SCORE BIG

Negotiations for a successful season

After their previous season, the field hockey team established several "non-negotiables."

"We are a family and we need to have open communication," said senior co-captain Amy Goldstein. "It's gotten a lot better. We rely on each other a lot more and there's a sense of trust there."

On September 18, the team took on Virginia Commonwealth University as a unit and reaped the rewards.

"We capitalized on so many opportunities," said fifth-year senior, co-captain Samantha Smiertka. "We all played together as one unit. We knew what we were supposed to do and did exactly that."

Smiertka recalled how during their 2012 season they sat back too

much and weren't on the offense enough. However, this season the team referred to its playbook, which focused on an attack and defense goal for every game and practice.

"We've been really talking to each line about what each line will bring to a game or practice," said Smiertka. "Our focus has been on attack. We've been scoring a lot more goals."

Even with their hard work, on October 6, the team experienced one of their toughest games of the season against the University of Delaware.

"We were ahead 2-0 and in 12 minutes they came back three goals and beat us," said Goldstein. "It was a turning point. We're not going to let that happen again."

Despite their loss, the team still

hoped to make it to the Colonial Athletic Association Championship, a feat that the seniors had yet to experience in their four years here.

"We haven't made it there since before I was here. It's the one thing I want to do before we graduate," said Goldstein. "I think we will. It's just a matter of bouncing back and being able to finish the season strong with wins."

WORDS Claire Fogarty

PHOTOS JMU Athletics

Communications

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

SCOREBOARD

Date	Opponent	Result
08/30/13	Kent State	W 5-1
09/01/13	Ball State	W 8-1
09/06/13	American	L 0-2
09/08/13	Columbia	L 1-2
09/11/13	Longwood	W 4-2
09/15/13	Richmond	L 0-1
09/18/13	VCU	W 4-0
09/21/13	Appalachian State	W 7-0
09/25/13	Virginia	L 1-6
09/29/13	William & Mary	L 3-4
10/04/13	Towson	W 2-1
10/06/13	Delaware	L 2-3
10/09/13	Radford	W 6-0
10/18/13	Davidson	W 3-0
Overall		8-6
CAA		1-2



Senior Samantha Smiertka runs down the field and keeps the ball away from an Appalachian State defender. Smiertka was recognized on Senior Day for her contributions to the team.



Senior Amy Goldstein fights to keep the ball away from an opponent. Goldstein was named the CAA Defense of the Year by coaches in the league.



FIRST ROW Taylor West, Jessica Cumin, Rosaie Becker, Rachel Palumbo, Loes Stijntjes, Shelby Grande, Kristen Reitano. **SECOND ROW** Sarah Bieszczad, Taylor Bailey, Lana Wimmer, Samantha Smierka, Stephanie Tarafas, Amy Goldstein, Hannah George, Dana Allaband, Colleen Andrews. **THIRD ROW** Assistant Coach Andrew Gooderham, Bailee Hubert, Erin Gallivan, Saskia Chelminowski, Bethany Ashworth, Jade Saylor, Robin De Bruyne, Adrienne le Vatte, Danielle Wilson, Music Trainer Zahida Mitha, Interim Head Coach Michael Boal.



LEFT Sophomore Bjorn Johnson prepares to pass the disc down the field during a set of drills. Drills were chosen and run by the team's captains and more experienced players.

MIDDLE Sophomore Griffin Lang takes a running jump in order to grab the disc. The team's practices helped the players sharpen their skills and prepare them for games.

RIGHT Despite fifth-year senior Benjamin Fleming's defense, senior Brett Woodward successfully throws the disc to a teammate. In order to prepare for games the team often participated in scrimmages against each other.

the perfect TOSS

Men's club frisbee team grows in numbers



Swoosh! A frisbee flew through the air. Sophomore Griffin Lang jumped to grab it, as other players ran toward him with the same goal. Lang joined the team as a freshman. Never having heard of ultimate frisbee until he started college, he surprised himself by making the A-Team, otherwise known as the Flying Hellfish.

To join the team, students were required to try out. About 100 people wrote their emails down at Student Organization Night and at interest meetings, but only about 20-25 made the A-Team. There were about 30 members on the B-Team, which was fondly referred to as the Smellfish. After the teams were finalized the two groups practiced separately.

The teams were completely student-run. As a team, they traveled for tournaments. A tournament featured about 15-30 college teams, and then broke into pools of four teams each.

They played each team once, then moved on to a

championship bracket or a loser bracket. While they traveled, having gone as far as Athens, Ga., the team strove to win regionals in order to move on to nationals with the top 25 schools in the country. The team even hosted their own tournament, Bonanza, with about 20 teams participating.

"I've never been so sore in my life," said Lang, adding that it, "definitely gets you into shape."

Injuries were not uncommon. This year three players had to sit out because of injuries. In his first game, Lang separated his shoulder. However, he recovered and continued to dedicate himself to the sport.

Swoosh! He grabbed the Frisbee, scoring. The team won.

WORDS Taylor Vollman
PHOTOS Christina Reilley
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



Freshman Tessa Mundell practices for an upcoming meet. Mundell came in 12th at the Colonial Athletic Association Championship and earned All-CAA honors.

FIRST ROW Erin Lopresti, Carolyn Payne, Kelsey Seymour, Julie Strange. **SECOND ROW** Lilie Brown, Caroline Morris, Kelsey Langton, Tessa Mundell, Emily Cole, Jenna Flickinger, Rachel Hagen, Leidy Arias Bernal, Meghan Malloy. **THIRD ROW** Allison Huschke, Kala Westbrook, Kathleen Stewart, Morgan Sheaffer, Kristen Landry, Laura Dobbs, Katherine Brendli, Carol Berra, Maria Snyder.



Run hard and KEEP GOING

Women's cross country team has strong season start

The finish line was less than 100 feet away. That was when the adrenaline took over.

Sophomore Jenna Flickinger's arms pumped, her legs burned and her lungs ached as she poured every last bit of energy she had into finishing the race, and finishing it strong. Seconds later, she flew across the finish line just 5.6 seconds after the race's initial winner.

But that didn't matter. Flickinger's impressive 17:57:58 time, combined with the women's cross country team's three other top 10 finishes of the day, won the team the Towson Invitational meet by seven points.

"I was just thinking run hard and keep going," said Flickinger. "The hardest thing is to keep mentally in the race and so it's the most important thing, to just keep racing the whole way through."

The team had an overall score of 35 points, seven points lower than their closest opponent. Freshman Tessa Mundell and juniors Rachel Hagen and Kristen Landry landed top 10 finishes as well.

"I was just thinking get out fast," said Mundell. "Get out fast and stay out of the pack

because then you have to work your way out of every person."

The Towson Invitational was the team's first official meet of the season and Flickinger hoped that their strong racing would continue.

"You don't really know where you're at until you start racing so at that point it's like, 'Ok, I'm either where I need to be or not,'" said Flickinger. "It was cool because it was our first official meet and it was just cool to come in and win as a team."

The team prepped for the meet by forming small groups of runners who stuck together during a race, creating a support system and keeping runners accountable to each other.

"It makes all the difference," said Flickinger. "You want to do well for your team because you know them personally and not just as a teammate."



Sophomore Jenna Flickinger keeps a steady pace during practice. Flickinger finished in fourth place at the 2013 Eastern College Athletic Competition.

WORDS Haley Lambert
PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications
DESIGN Christina Reilley





CELEBRATION THROUGH DANCE

Club puts modern twist on traditional dance

The Bhangra Club began in 2009, but the dance dated back to the 1950s. The dance was invented in the Punjabi region of India as a form of harvest celebration. Over several decades the dance was modified and polished into the artform it is today.

Club treasurer and junior Alicia Inkrote, described the dance as "very high energy."

"The costumes are brightly colored. It's all just to get people excited. It's all about celebration."

Inkrote has been dancing for as long as she could remember, but did not begin dancing Bhangra until joining the club during the fall of her sophomore year. Her lack of experience didn't stop the club from welcoming her.

"Anyone can do it. We are always looking for more people. This year we had a few new people that didn't have much experience, but they have improved so much," said Inkrote.

The club practiced three times a week and competed in collegiate competitions. The 2013 Bhangra club was composed of three men and six women. Because Bhangra

was often a partner dance, some of the women had to dress as men. When the group competed at the University of Mary Washington, Inkrote performed as a man.

Inkrote said that performing was her favorite part of the activity. She admitted that occasionally the group included "cutesy" things such as winking to win over the judges.

"Usually with Bhangra people just scream for you, but it's nerve-racking when the judges are sitting right in front of you," said Inkrote. "The feeling of being on stage gives you the adrenaline push."

The Bhangra club was involved in culture shows on campus, theme dinners and some fraternities' events as well. The club planned to host an exhibition show on campus and a workshop in the spring semester.

Inkrote planned to stay involved with the club until she graduated. Not only for the thrill of performing or social involvement, but because "it's really good exercise."

WORDS Angela Williams

PHOTO Alicia Inkrote

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

joining THE TEAM

Students thrive on club teams



Although senior Allison Durso had played field hockey since the seventh grade, she wouldn't have thought about trying out for the club team if it hadn't been for her high school travel team coach.

"His daughter was a year older than me and played club at the University of Maryland and she said it was a great way to still be involved in the sport, but at a less intense level than varsity," said Durso.

As a right wing mid-fielder, Durso was glad that she joined the club team. She made some of her best college memories with her teammates.

"The girls on my team are my best friends," said Durso. "We all bond so well together and there is never a dull moment. As I have gotten older, the whole team has gotten so much closer as a whole."

Durso admitted that sometimes the pressure of games could get

challenging. Luckily, she had a strategy.

"During a game, I try to keep calm. If I get too nervous or think too much, that's where mistakes are made."

She also realized that being cool and upbeat could have a positive effect on the game.

"I try to encourage other teammates in a positive way if they make any mistakes so that they don't get angry or frustrated with themselves," said Durso. "We have all tried really hard to do this as a team, and it definitely showed improvements."

Durso said her proudest moment with the team was when the team won nationals her freshman year, when they placed first over the top 16 teams in the league.

"Everyone on the team had so much excitement and it gave our sport club so much recognition," said Durso.

As for playing in the future, Durso said

she might consider alumni leagues.

"I just remember the feeling after winning nationals a few years back," said Durso. "It felt so great to be a part of a team that had so much passion for the sport and that was a moment where I thought, 'This is why I play field hockey.'"

WORDS Julie Hirschhorn

PHOTO Courtesy of Allison Durso

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

Senior Cynthia Carson planned on running triathlons in a neon pink sports bra even when she was 70.

As a member of the school's triathlon team, or "Tri-Club," Carson and her teammates competed in races all over the country. The race consisted of three legs: the first activity was a swim, followed by a cycling portion and ending with a run.

"I knew I wanted to join some sort of club team going into JMU so I decided to pick something out of the ordinary," said Carson. "I was a runner all of high school and a swimmer all of my life, so I figured triathlon would be easy to pick up, all I needed was the bike leg."

Becoming a triathlete was ideal for a person who wanted to challenge themselves by practicing multiple sports at once.

"The most challenging part is always the run for me. I'm a strong cyclist and I often gain a pretty far lead, so the run is the hardest and last part. So I often have to almost kill myself trying to keep that lead during the run," said Carson.

Nevertheless, the pros of finishing a race far outweighed the aches and pains that were experienced during it.

"The most rewarding thing is probably crossing the finish line and being handed a water bottle of some sort, and knowing I just finished another race. Not many people can say that," said Carson.

According to Carson, being able to call yourself a national finalist was fulfilling.

"The team flew out to Arizona for the week and we raced on a Saturday. The girls' team placed 21st overall and I placed 41st out of over 500 female athletes," said Carson.

Not every person could say that they mastered three sports at once. However, being a triathlete was the first step. If she could sum up triathlons in one word, Carson said it would be "power."

WORDS Julie Hirschhorn

PHOTO Courtesy of Cynthia Carson

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



EXTREME exercise

Students fight and climb
their way to fitness

"F

encing is called physical chess," said junior Patrick Cusumano.

Cusumano was part of the fencing club, but for him fencing was more than just a hobby.

"I wanted to do something that was unique," said Cusumano. "And I thought sword fighting sounded cool."

Cusumano began fencing his sophomore year of high school. He practiced six to 12 hours a week, working on his sword skills.

"I primarily fence foil," said Cusumano. "It's the lightest with a very tactical form."

Most fencers started using foil blades, but could also use other blades. Another blade was the epee, which was similar to a renaissance sword. Another option was the saber, which was like a pirate's cutlass. All three types of blades had different scoring techniques and rules.

But fencing was not about the blade, it was about the person wielding it.

"Your personality will either be shown or contrasted by your fencing," said Cusumano.

Some fencers focused on their offensive game, while others concentrated on their defensive game.

Cusumano said he tended to be an

aggressive fencer but liked to mix it up. He adjusted to his opponent and never fenced the same way twice.

"I prefer the intensity when I have evenly matched opponents," said Cusumano.

Fencing could be both intellectually and physically challenging.

While thinking on his feet, examining his opponent and constantly planning his next move, Cusumano was also lunging to strike his opponent.

"You get really sweaty," said Cusumano. "You're wearing a long-sleeved, heavy jacket and a mask while moving athletically."

Respect was a large characteristic present in fencing. A fencer must have respect for themselves, their opponent and the sport. Cusumano said that was one of the reasons he loved the sport and wouldn't stop after he graduated.

"Fencing is a lifelong sport," said Cusumano. "You never stop learning how to handle a blade."

WORDS Dominique Escalera

PHOTO Danielle Lerer

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



S

tudents braved the depths of wild cave systems in club caving.

"We provide a safe atmosphere for people to learn all about caving," said Jasmin Ullah, vice president of Madison University Student Grotto, or club caving. "We'll also provide you with the training and knowledge to really get the full experience."

Ullah said that club caving offered students the opportunity to go on multiple trips a year to some of the best caving locations in the Virginia Area Region Conference.

"It's exhilarating. There's a lot of climbing, sliding and moving around and there's a huge sense of thrill the entire time," said Ullah. "As of right now, we have about 15 active members. We take trips to some great locations and there's a real sense of community within the club."

Besides being a fun activity, caving was also a rigorous form of exercise.

"It's a great workout. Definitely

a vigorous sport, but there's no feeling quite like finishing a trip. Plus, sometimes you're lucky to find some amazing views," said Ullah. "All in all, it's an awesome experience and I highly encourage everyone to try it."

Ullah said that there was no form of tryouts, and that as long as students had an interest and a passion, they were welcome to come out.

So instead of going to a kickboxing class, students could try caving for a new kind of workout.

WORDS Timothy Mitchell

PHOTO Courtesy of Jasmin Ullah

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



BLEEDING PURPLE SHOOTING GOLD

Archery team shoots to win

No flinching, no breathing, no distractions. In the sport of archery, there was very little margin for error and the smallest change in form could mean the difference between winning and losing.

"Since it's not fast-paced and there are no sudden movements it's easy to let your nerves get to you," said junior Amelia Nguyen. "Those will lead to shaky arms, sweaty fingers and other things that keep you from being a machine that cranks out the same result every time."

Nguyen had been on the archery team for three years. She became interested while attending Student Organization Night, at first only desiring to join a club related to music.

While she was never interested in archery before Student Organization Night, Nguyen saw bows and arrows displayed on the archery table and wanted to learn more.

During her freshman and sophomore years, she practiced in Godwin every day except Saturday for two hours. As a junior, she practiced only three to four days a week. Nguyen purchased her own bow to practice with and to keep up her regime during breaks and over the summer.

"My Coach Bob Ryder said once you get to a certain level it's 90 percent mental and 10 percent physical," said Nguyen.

Every year the team practiced for four tournaments. Nguyen went to seven in her first two years, some being as far away as Utah. In 2012, the team went to Connecticut and California.

The uniform for a tournament consisted of a purple collared shirt displaying the archery logo in the corner, khaki pants and closed-toed shoes.

There were two types of bows an archer could use. The first was a recurve bow, which was what Nguyen used, while the other was a compound. An ideal score for the recurve bow for a boy was about 540, for a girl over 500.

"Recurve was what Katniss shot in the 'Hunger Games' while compound was what Hawkeye shot in 'Thor,'" said Nguyen.

While Nguyen enjoyed the publicity archery got from "The Hunger Games," she knew it created unrealistic stereotypes for participants.

"Due to 'The Hunger Games' I'm glad that archery as a sport has increased in popularity and awareness, but as a character I have nothing in common with her except the bow,"

said Nguyen.

In an indoor tournament each archer did 60 ends, or rounds, over the course of two days.

The target contained different colored rings with different corresponding values. The colors were gold, red, blue and black with the highest value being the center gold ring, which was worth 10 points. At the end of round one, a player simply added up the total number of points to find their score.

Nguyen's fellow archer, junior Sara Clemmer, described Nguyen as a helper and leader on the team. Nguyen was the treasurer on the team and enjoyed coaching the new members on their form and answering any questions.

Clemmer stated how she continued to get better every tournament and shot All-East last year, meaning she was one of the top 10 ranked on the East Coast.

Nguyen planned to continue pursuing archery after her graduation in 2015.

WORDS Rebekah Pe
PHOTOS Danielle Lee
DESIGN Alexandra Roodie



RIGHT The archery team stands in a line, poised to release their arrows. Some of the students decorated their bows; they were recurve bows, made famous by Katniss Everdeen.

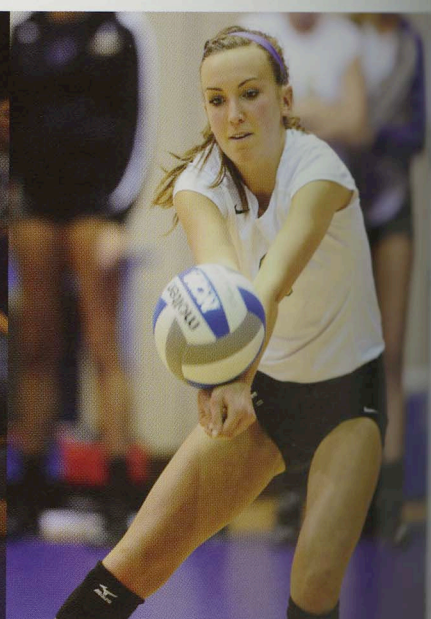


Archery team members collect their arrows from the targets. Each colored ring was worth a different number of points, with the gold center being worth the most.

game CHANGER

SCOREBOARD

Date	Opponent	Result
08/30/13	Montana	L 2-3
08/31/13	Virginia	L 1-3
08/31/13	Marshall	W 3-2
09/06/13	Wyoming	L 1-3
09/07/13	CSU Bakersfield	L 1-3
09/07/13	Presbyterian	W 3-2
09/10/13	Radford	L 1-3
09/13/13	Albany	W 3-0
09/14/13	North Carolina	L 0-3
09/14/13	George Washington	W 3-2
09/20/13	Wake Forest	L 0-3
09/21/13	Campbell	W 3-1
09/21/13	Cleveland State	L 1-3
09/27/13	William & Mary	W 3-2
10/04/13	College of Charleston	L 1-3
10/06/13	UNCW	L 1-3
10/11/13	Towson	W 3-1
10/13/13	Delaware	W 3-1
10/18/13	UNCW	L 0-3
10/20/13	College of Charleston	L 1-3
10/25/13	Delaware	W 3-1
10/26/13	Towson	L 0-3
Overall		9-13
CAA		4-5



TO
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game

Injuries can't keep volleyball team down

"It's our team – we're all playing for each other," said junior Martha Stewart of the women's volleyball team.

Over the past two seasons, the team suffered a slew of injuries and consequential lineup changes.

"We had one of our girls get hurt so we've been mixing up the lineups," said Stewart. "But it's exciting because mostly everyone's getting to fit in and find their role on the team."

The team refused to let these few difficulties bring it down and instead used them as an incentive to play harder.

"The two girls that were out with their knee injuries last year have been working so hard. I think that seeing them be out for so long and have so much passion for the game [makes] us go out there and really take advantage of every opportunity we have to play," said Stewart. "Because you do get to go out there and play the sport that you love and you have to enjoy it."

The girls have enjoyed more than just the game, winning match after match against notoriously tough teams.

"We've had a lot of pretty good competition," said Stewart. "We got to play North Carolina and they're really good-ranked 16th or 17th in the nation, and we played really good against them."

The team hoped to continue this winning streak by applying the same intensity and passion they had for their team to their playing style.

"We've always been really aggressive. We focus on fundamentals first and keeping the ball in play," said redshirt junior Kelly Maguire. "It was really about pushing through all of the things holding us back, having injuries, having setbacks and just being able to push through the adversity."

Strength in the face of adversity became the team's motto. "It's all about the team," said Stewart. "We play as a family."

WORDS Haley Lambert

PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Alexandra Roadley



First Row: Kathleen Whitnire, Janey Goodman, Martha Stewart, Meghan Niski, Sierra Hahn-Ventrell, Kaitlyn Daorai, Kristi Richardson, Jaclyn Placha, Elizabeth Briones. **Second Row:** Head Coach Lauren Steinbrecher, Volunteer Assistant Coach Kenzie Tonn, Assistant Coach Casey Steinbrecher, Conner Beightol, Hanna Radhi, Sarah Delaney, MacKenzie Kleespies, Kelly Maguire, Sarah Patterson, Assistant Coach Brett Versen, Team Manager Nicole Koenemund.

turning the **GREEN** to **GOLD**



Junior Trey Smith drives the ball on the green. Smith hoped to go professional after graduating from JMU.

New additions to golf team puts championship into view

54. That's how many holes were in a men's golf tournament.

Junior Trey Smith and his team went through five of these tournaments this fall. But Smith came out of the fall season with more than just a great backswing to brag about.

In a rare move, Smith won the Colonial Athletic Association's Golfer of the Week award twice in a row.

"It's really all about getting lucky," said Smith.

According to Smith, the team as a whole had a terrific shot of getting the CAA championship when the full season concluded in the spring, with the addition of three new members to the 9-member team.

"We're more consistent with those three golfers that came in. They're all playing really well," said

Smith. "Team golf is all about being consistent."

The year before, the golf team ended their year with a second-place finish. Smith thought they were in a much better place to take the championship this year.

"To see two freshmen and a transfer step up like they did was really cool to see," said Smith. "Just kind of seeing the potential we have was the greatest thing."

With Smith ending his fall season on his own high note and the team set for consistency, the season was ready to be a hole-in-one.

WORDS Elizabeth Wertz

PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Elizabeth Wertz



FIRST ROW Poom Pattaropong, Connor Walters, Tyler Williams, Jon Weiss. **SECOND ROW** Head Coach Jeff Forbes, Trey Smith, Benjamin Firebaugh, Tucker Koch, Ryan Cole, Christopher Kapsak.



GREEN stretches overseas

Golf team putts around the world

Diversity might not have always been the most apparent thing on campus, but on the women's golf team it was anything but hidden.

"We want the best," said head coach Paul Gooden.

From Hong Kong to England, the eight girls made a team of international talent.

Some of the girls came to the United States solely for golf.

Senior Jun Ki Mak moved to the U.S. from Hong Kong four years ago to join the golf team. She picked up golf with her twin sister by following her dad to a golf course, and from that moment on, Mak excelled.

As the only senior on the team, she readied herself for graduation and her future.

"I want to take small steps, maybe go on a tour but if I get into grad school that's where I'll be going," said Mak.

Many people didn't realize how competitive a sport golf was, but compared to others, golf

was one of the most competitive. The majority of sports consisted of a certain number of players and every player dressed out for every game. Golf wasn't like that.

There was a higher level of competition. To be able to compete at a tournament, a player had to qualify out of the team first. Out of the eight girls on the team, only five were allowed to travel.

Even with the added competition, there was still a great sense of camaraderie. They supported each other, worked together to improve and used competition to make better themselves.

"It's a very nice atmosphere to be able to be a part of a team," said freshman Nicola Haynes, who is from Newcastle Upon Tyne England, having traveled to the U.S. in August.

"I'm very excited, a lot of our players improved this past year, especially over the summer," said junior Sheri Brewer. "Qualifying

was interesting this past year but we are getting back on track."

WORDS Coryn Coccozza

PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Lauren Stearns



TOP LEFT Sophomore Sheri Brewer watches her ball as it falls into the grass. Brewer has one title and was a conference medalist.

TOP RIGHT Junior Jun Ki Mak completes a swing, attempting to hit her ball out of the sand pit. At the end of the season, Mak was chosen for the first team All-CAA for the second time in her career.

FIRST ROW Sheri Brewer, Nicola Haynes, Jun Ki Mak.

SECOND ROW Kelsey Solan, Nikola Wessels, Maria Legaspi, Karishma Thiagaraj, Rachel Walker.

take the lead and RUN WITH IT

Football team breaks records at Homecoming

For one fall weekend campus became the most chaotic place in Harrisonburg. Homecoming Saturday began early with tailgaters, fans and, most importantly, alumni who couldn't wait to watch a sure-to-be exciting football game at Bridgeforth Stadium.

This year for Homecoming, the Dukes went head-to-head with the Villanova Wildcats and pulled off a 31-21 win.

In a stadium full of captivated fans, the players did not disappoint on the beautiful day in the valley.

Sophomore quarterback Michael Birdsong completed 20 out of 29 passes for 207 yards and one touchdown. The offense finished the game with a total of 364 yards.

With his 11-yard run in the first quarter, redshirt senior tailback DaeQuan Scott tied the career record for rushing touchdowns at 32.

Redshirt junior Daniel Brown had 94

yards throughout the game, including when he caught a 34-yard pass in the third quarter, resulting in a touchdown.

"My favorite part [about Homecoming weekend] is playing in front of JMU Nation," said redshirt freshman linebacker Rhakeem Stallings. "When I run out and see 25,000 people cheering us on, it's a great feeling. The atmosphere is like no other. I get goose bumps because I'm so into it and when the game begins, we are ready to go to war."

When the Dukes weren't on the offense scoring touchdowns, their defense was setting records. Redshirt senior linebacker Stephon Robertson got 16 tackles throughout the game, with five solo tackles and two sacks.

Titus Till, a redshirt junior strong safety, and redshirt freshman linebacker Gage Steele each had nine tackles for the Dukes.

Junior Deandre' Smith intercepted Villanova quarterback John Robertson's

pass in the red zone and made an 86 yard return, the third longest touchdown return in history. It was the first interception of Smith's career.

"The atmosphere of a Homecoming game is a lot more exciting because we get the opportunity to play in front of not just our family and friends, but our alumni," said redshirt junior Marquis Woodyard.

"This year, to come back home from suffering a tough loss in Williamsburg gave us a chance to redeem ourselves with 25,000 fans cheering us on."

Redeeming themselves didn't seem to be a problem for the Dukes as they took the lead early and never looked back.

WORDS Courtney Ambrose

PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



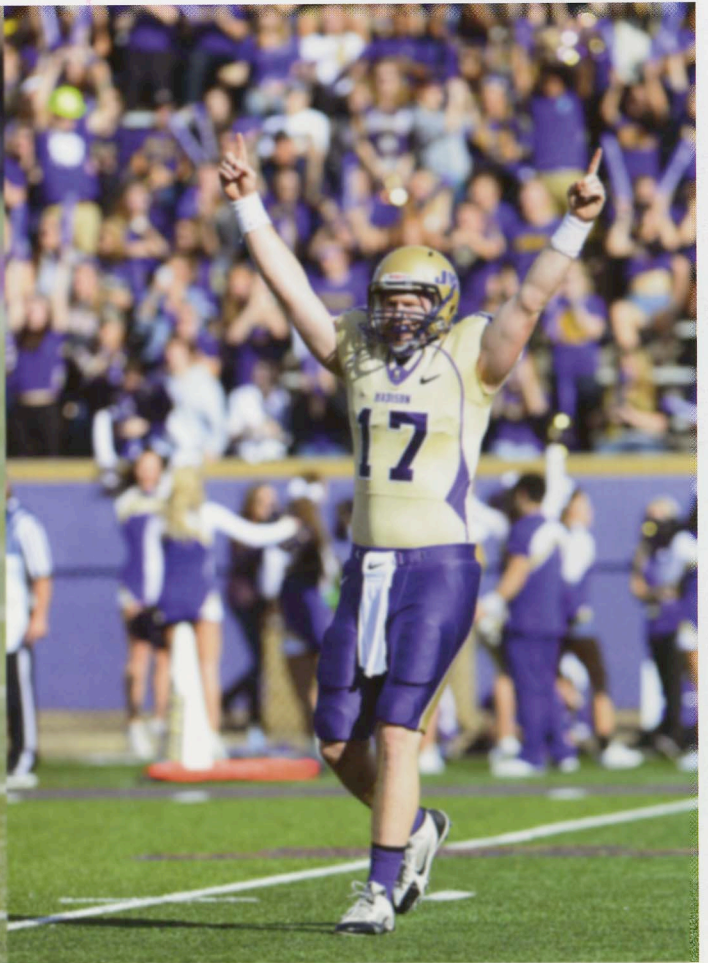


SCOREBOARD

Date	Opponent	Result
08/31/13	Central Connecticut	W 38-14
09/07/13	Akron	L 33-35
09/14/13	Saint Francis	W 24-20
09/21/13	Charlotte	W 34-7
09/28/13	Delaware	L 22-29
10/05/13	Albany	W 40-13
10/12/13	Richmond	W 38-31
10/26/13	William and Mary	L 7-17
11/02/13	Villanova	W 31-21
11/09/13	New Hampshire	L 17-33
11/16/13	Stony Brook	L 38-41
11/23/13	Towson	L 17-28
Overall		6-6
CAA		3-5



Freshman wide receiver Brandon Ravenel tries to slip away from a defender with the ball in tow. JMU beat Villanova at Homecoming 31-21.



Sophomore quarterback Michael Birdsong celebrates after a touchdown at the Homecoming game. Birdsong was the only freshman to see play in 2012.

ribbons, bows and TUCKED-IN TOES

The cheerleading team shows off their skills beyond the football field

Students saw them at football games, basketball games, volleyball games and around campus. They cheered loudly and amazed students with their ability to throw each other in the air and still land on their feet.

Besides cheering on three different sports, the cheerleading team attended not-as-well publicized sports, such as swim and dive, field hockey and lacrosse.

They moved up a division from Intermediate to Advanced and were invited back to the National Colonial Athletic Association's College nationals, qualifying from camp over the summer, and receiving a gold bid, the highest bid a team could get. The difference in divisions was determined by the certain types of routines that teams were allowed to do.

"You are not allowed to twist in tumbling sequences, and you cannot flip in your baskets and you were not allowed to go through two and a half people high in pyramids," said head coach Kelly Moore.

The routine for nationals was only two minutes and 30 seconds,

and with nationals in April, there was five months of practice for those few minutes. Placing second last year by only 0.4 of a point proved that perfection was key to competition, and giving it their all in every practice was imperative.

"We have a lot of talent this year, and we are all really enthusiastic about cheerleading," said senior Shannon Connolly.

Even though there were many different aspects of a cheerleading season, football games were the main stage.

"Football games are relaxed and fun," said senior Lacey Lomax. "They give us an opportunity to show the crowd how athletic we can be while supporting the football team. The best part is being able to stand right next to the team on the sideline when a big play is made. There are no better seats than the cheerleaders."

WORDS Coryn Coccia

PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Elizabeth Wells



The cheerleaders pose with their left arms up to honor the kick-off of a football game. They attended every game and had the best seats in the house.



FIRST ROW Lauren Asher, Blair Rosen, Brittany Shannon, Lacey Lomax, Shannon Connolly, Erika Downing, Julianne Batzo. **SECOND ROW** Christina Thoppil, Stephanie Bucher, Joyce Theisen, Lauren Proctor, Hannah Berg, Jessica Phillips, Haley Svadeba, Danielle Bink, Nicole Pontanilla, Emily Maynard. **THIRD ROW** Coral Kochis, Amanda D'Angelo, Stephanie Carper, Michaela Paschal, Kaitlin Olliver, Brianna Keefe, Rebecca Wells, Danielle Savastano, Carly Stratton, Jordan Kimball, Taelor Weaver. **FOURTH ROW** Madison Hicks, Calli Dow, Rachel Mendelson, Cara Phillips, Erika Harrington, Andrea Gargiulo, Jessica Wilson, Ashanti Anderson. **FIFTH ROW** Andrew P., Sean Monks, Anthony Blanchfield-Felice, Brandon Hill, Head Coach Kelly Moore, Samuel Ludwig, Christian Hubbard, Gabriel Lullens, Andrew Sabo.



Sophomore Nicole Pontanilla encourages the crowd to cheer for the JMU football team. Pontanilla cheered for the all-girl JMU cheerleading team.

women's WORLD

Team breaks stereotype

The women's club rugby team was composed of true pioneers who explored a foreign world. Much like many legendary explorers before them, the team entered a strange land, and steadily worked their way through a male-dominated sport. They took on all challenges with an iron will, determined to excel.

"It's scary. I only started this semester," said junior Alice Crawshaw. "There aren't many girls doing it; it's different and fun."

The team practiced hard and no player was left behind, rookie or veteran.

"The girls are really nice, they were really welcoming," said Crawshaw. "They were really patient and worked with the rookies on learning skills."

This dedication to team building and hard work paid off. Since its creation in 1976, the women's club rugby team asserted their dominance, including winning the plate championship at the national tournament in 2012. But even in the face of defeat, they kept their heads high, a sign of their endless determination.

"Westchester was our hardest competition," said freshman Emily Fulbrook. "Even though we lost by

three points, we didn't give up."

The dedication upheld by the team created long-lasting team bonds which helped them function like a family. Players always had words of encouragement for their teammates in between practice drills.

"You're friends on and off the field," said sophomore Abigail McGinty.

The women's club rugby team created a new frontier for future forays into sports that were typically dominated by men, and retained their individuality throughout their adventures. Like true pioneers, the team was not satisfied with just a few victories. The hunger for more kept them moving forward, searching for new fields to conquer.

"Not a lot of girls play this sport," said McGinty. "It makes you original."

WORDS Gregory Wilson
PHOTOS Alice Crawshaw
DESIGN Lauren Stearns



The women's club rugby team strategizes before a game. The team played in the Collegiate National Tournament and finished second in the nation.



Members of the women's club rugby team pose for a picture after a win. The women played against Virginia Tech and University of Virginia.



RIGHT Senior Alexander Federinko finds a gap in the Illinois State University defense. The team beat Illinois 62-19.

BOTTOM Junior Evan Larson cannot be stopped by just one man. But rugby wasn't all about tackling and blocking, it was also very strategic.

Battling 'til the END

Madison rugby strives to be undefeated again

Undefeated. That is the title the Madison Rugby Football Club walked away with at the end of their regular season.

"It's been tough, it's been stressful," said junior captain Jacob Saintcross. "But no matter what, I'm going to remember this season."

In their last conference game, Madison beat the previously undefeated Old Dominion University rugby team by 35 points. In eight regular season games, the team beat all of the schools in their division.

This year the club stood strong with about 80 players over their three teams, and four coaches advising them. But it took more than numbers to win a game.

"Strategy is everything, it's like chess," said Saintcross, stressing that rugby is something that is mentally driven. "You can set the plays up beforehand but you have to wait and see how it plays out."

The team tried to change the perception of the sport.

"Rugby is seen as a party sport. It kind of has that connotation," said senior club president Christopher Kunkel. "We're just as committed as any varsity team on campus."

Both Saintcross and Kunkel played on club rugby teams before college.

"I've been playing rugby for nine to 10 years," said Kunkel.

Kunkel and Saintcross were the exceptions. About 80 percent of the team started brand new.

Senior Alexander Federinko joined the team his sophomore year.

"I chose rugby because I wanted to hit somebody," said Federinko. "I played football all through high school and I couldn't see myself going through college without a team."

Unlike football, the hits in rugby were body to body.

"In rugby there is no real padding. You can give and receive pretty equally," said Federinko.

Injuries occurred not only from getting hit but also from hitting other players. But that didn't mean it was all pain and no gain.

"I'm good at hitting people," said Saintcross. "And it does feel good to tackle somebody really well."

Tackling came in handy as the Madison rugby team moved onto the conference championship game at ODU, facing teams they already beat in the regular season.

"The opposing teams have nothing to lose while we have everything to lose," said Kunkel. "We just need to focus on the game and play well."



WORDS Dominique Escalera

PHOTOS Courtesy of Alexander Federinko

DESIGN Lauren Stearns

boarderline CRAZY

Dukes rule the mountain

These sports enthusiasts aren't bored. They are board — Boarderline, to be exact.

Boarderline was the university's largest sports club, with 250-300 members, all of whom were skiers and snowboarders. Members looked for a good time during the winter season by traveling to nearby mountains to enjoy the slopes with friends.

The club planned three weekend trips to Snowshoe Mountain Ski Resort in West Virginia, as well as smaller weekend trips. Boarderline received discounted season passes from Snowshoe, and rented houses at the resort while they were there for weekend trips.

To participate in these excursions, members had to earn points by volunteering. Boarderline was an active participant in the Harrisonburg community. They organized a food drive for Second Home Child Care Center and collected two full carloads to donate to the center.

In addition to providing community service, members bonded through activities like zip-lining at Massanutten, and waxing parties to tune up their winter equipment.

"The best part about being in Boarderline is being able to ski and ride together, and staying in a house with JMU friends," said junior community service chair Morgan Braun.

The organization was competitive, but the team preferred a fun and social atmosphere.

They competed in the United States Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association in the Southeast Division.

"I joined Boarderline to become a better snowboarder. People are always willing to help because everyone is so nice. It was a great way to make friends and ride with people on my skill level," said senior social chair Rachel Winfrey.

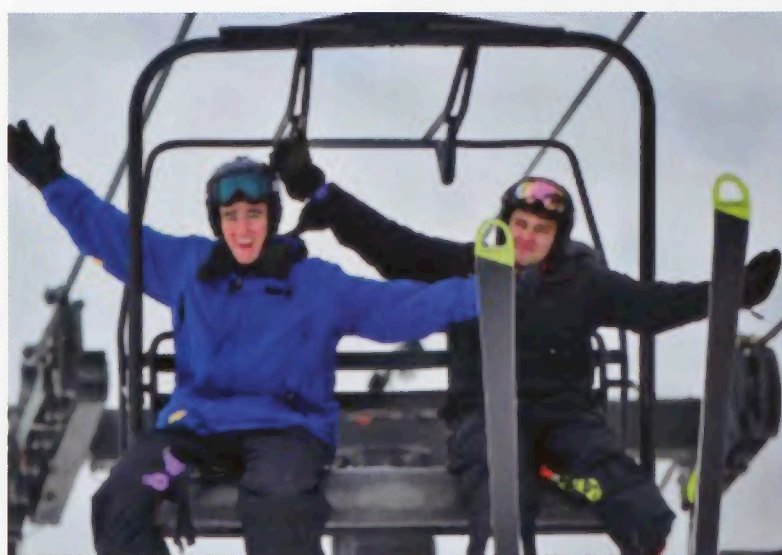
Boarderline also participated in the free competition, Red Bull Rivals, at Massanutten. There, the club competed against surrounding universities, such as the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech and Virginia Commonwealth University. The team had won the Red Bull Rivals for the past two years.

"It is a fun environment, and it is a great opportunity to meet students from other schools," said junior vice president Armistead Dey.

Boarderline took pride in its friendly environment, and did not consider itself an "ice-breaker" type club. Unless you counted the ice on the slopes as they killed the competition.

WORDS Paige Lobuts
PHOTOS Courtesy of Morgan Braun
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan





Members of the ski club prepare to jump from the ski lift. The club frequently skied at Bryce Resort.



A ski club member skis down the slope. The club skied both competitively and as a hobby, focusing on team bonding.

KINGS of the SLOPES

Ski and snowboard club masters the mountain

While some students dreamed of warm beaches and wished for winter's end, the JMU Ski and Snowboard Racing team, otherwise known as the ski club, dreamt of freezing temperatures and mountains of snow.

"The best part about ski club is the camaraderie and how you can make the team as competitive as you want," said sophomore Thomas Menton.

Menton came to the university looking for an organization that combined the competitive nature of skiing with the leisurely aspects of the sport. Menton found his niche with the ski club.

After being an active member since his freshman year, Menton served on the executive board as treasurer.

The club focused on a positive cohesion and family like atmosphere, especially when taking in new members. Members participated in bonding activities at their home mountain, Bryce, located in Basye, Va., and other mountains not too far from campus. Beyond club bonding, the team competed in several disciplines during winter.

"For skiing, there are both racing, which includes giant slalom and slalom, and slope-style, which is essentially a trick contest. As far as snowboarding goes, they compete in giant slalom and slope-style," said Menton.

Until spring break, the team stayed active by traveling for race trips almost every weekend. They traveled as close as Massanutten and as far as Sugar Mountain, N.C. To prepare for competitions, the team practiced at Bryce Mountain on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Menton explained that the team wasn't just competitive.

"For the most part, all of the upperclassmen and returning members are really close and hang out all the time, even outside of practice and competition weekends," said Menton.

At the end of winter, the ski club planned a formal to say goodbye to graduating seniors.

"While at this event previous 'superlative' winners will pass them down to someone else and give a little gag gift. In return, all of the younger members collaboratively buy

the graduating seniors a parting gift," said Menton. "The exchanges become very emotional."

The team also associated and became close friends with other teams in their conference. The organization represented a well-rounded group of students who enjoyed skiing competitively and also spending quality time with close friends.

"Most are there to just have a good time and take in all the memories that are waiting for us at our fingertips. All in all, I couldn't have made a better decision when choosing a club to join at the beginning of my freshman year," said Menton.

WORDS Paige Lobuts

PHOTOS Courtesy of Morgan Braun

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

SHUT UP AND ROW

New members, new boats, new horizons





LEFT Members of club crew pose before a competition. The team planned to attend two to three regattas each semester. **RIGHT** Club crew competes against stiff competition. The group practiced on the Shenandoah River, not Newman Lake as commonly assumed.

"Power ten in two! One, two, GO!" Welcome to the world of JMU Club Crew, who, in fall 2013, competed in two high-stake regattas: the Occoquan Challenge in Northern Virginia and the Head of the Hooch in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Coached by club president, junior Cari Rand, along with senior Rachel Barnett, the team trained hard at the crack of dawn each day, rowing in boats of four and eight on the south fork of the Shenandoah River, about 30 minutes away from campus.

A lot of changes were underway for club crew at the time, making the 2013 fall season one-of-a-kind.

"We built our boathouse last year, so that was a big step up," said Rand. "We just bought another new boat, which is the first new boat we've bought in a while. We have a whole new exec board and a whole lot of new rowers this year."

One of these new rowers, freshman Nina Varma, shed some insight on what

crew was like for a novice during the fall of 2013.

"It requires a lot more work than what I was actually anticipating," said Varma. "It's one of the most difficult yet rewarding ventures I have ever undertaken."

Her teammate, junior Alan Croasdale, competed as a coxswain for the women's varsity eight during the fall season. As a coxswain, his job was to command and steer the boat during regattas and in practice, a seemingly simple task that actually proved to be quite difficult.

"Crew is very much a finesse sport, and I don't know if people realize that," said Croasdale. "It's not just a matter of rowing, it's rowing together. There's so much technique to it. As a coxswain, you have to be able to identify the specific problems going on, steer the boat, make race plans...there's a lot that goes into it."

After the fall season was completed, the club held winter conditioning every morning in UREC to train for their

spring season. The 2014 season raised the stakes significantly for crew, with many more regattas and even tougher competition. In spite of this fact, many rowers chose to stay on for the spring season, openly displaying the strength of their dedication to the sport.

"I just thought it was really neat that we even have a crew team at all," said Croasdale. "Because when you think of JMU, you don't really think of water."

However, club crew managed to defy this misconception, going out of its way to find a nearby water source to row and train on. The club continued to make its mark on the university through its many trials and triumphs, rowing their way across the finish line into the university's athletic history.

WORDS Michelle Criqui
PHOTOS Courtesy of Club Crew
DESIGN Lauren Stearns

SCOREBOARD

Date	Opponent	Result
08/24/13	Fordham	W 2-1
09/01/13	Binghamton	W 3-0
09/07/13	UNCG	L 0-1
09/11/13	VMI	W 6-1
09/15/13	Georgetown	L 0-1
09/22/13	Stetson	T 1-1
09/27/13	Furman	L 0-1
10/02/13	Loyola	W 3-0
10/06/13	Northeastern	L 1-2
10/09/13	Delaware	L 1-2
10/12/13	UNCW	L 0-1
10/16/13	Hofstra	L 2-5
10/22/13	Belmont	W 2-0
10/26/13	Drexel	W 2-1
10/30/13	College of Charleston	L 1-2
11/03/13	Georgia Southern	L 1-2
11/06/13	William and Mary	L 0-1
Overall		6-10-1
CAA		1-6



FIRST ROW Connor Coward, Callum Hill, Patrick Moore, Toby Appleton, Mitchell Jordan, Taylor Jackson, Michael Russo. **SECOND ROW** Jamal Umar, Daniel Simpson, Colin Newcity, Adam Bastidas, Mike Whitaker, John Ricketti, Markus Björkheim, Karel Manrau, Renaldo Garcia, Eric Schmidt. **THIRD ROW** Tim Whitebread, Tyler Durbin, Thomas Fouhy, Steven Mashinski, Jonathan Barden, Joshua Grant, Trey Saunders, Bjarki Adalsteinsson, Daniel Roppert. **FOURTH ROW** Rhys Howard, Kyle Morton, Bill Groban, Christian Foust.

from futból to soccer

Players come from all over the world to play for the university

Many students couldn't imagine moving thousands of miles away from the place they've called home for their entire life to play soccer. For junior forward Joshua Grant and sophomore defender Bjarki Adalsteinsson, getting an American college experience is just what they wanted.

Grant is from Plymouth, England, while Adalsteinsson is from Kópavogur, Iceland. They both moved to the United States after being recruited by the university.

"I have been kicking a ball since I could walk," said Grant. "At a trial game in London, the assistant coach, Tom Foley, introduced himself and things went from there."

After being recruited to come to the university, he didn't even Google where the university was until about two weeks before he arrived in Harrisonburg for the first time.

On the other hand, Adalsteinsson grew up across from one of the best soccer academies in Iceland and started playing there at five years of age.

"One of my family friends, Kjartan Antonsson, played for the university in the late 1990s and he got me in contact with the head coach," said Adalsteinsson. "A recruitment coach made a trip to Iceland to see me play."

While the men loved their sport, it wasn't always easy being far from home.

"Obviously you're not going to play brilliantly every day. Some days you just want to go home and

get your mum's cooking and relax," said Grant. "I miss being able to do that, but you just have to be mentally strong."

Adalsteinsson said he missed being able to see his family and friends.

"Home is the comfort zone, the place I grew up, know the best and I feel the best there," said Adalsteinsson.

Although they came to the university from across the world, both Grant's and Adalsteinsson's families were able to make it to Harrisonburg to see them play last year. Adalsteinsson's parents and brother saw him play against both William & Mary and George Mason University last season.

Aside from the many cultural changes, Grant and Adalsteinsson agreed that one of the biggest adjustments to playing in America was saying "soccer" instead of "fútból."

"There have been a lot of ups and downs. We are still tweaking a lot of things," said Adalsteinsson.

As far as the season went, Adalsteinsson said that the team's ultimate goal was to win the Colonial Athletic Association championship.

WORDS Courtney Ambrose
PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan





TOP Sophomore Bjarki Adalsteinsson blocks a Loyola University opponent by heading the ball away from him. The team ended the game with a 3-0 shut out over Loyola.

LEFT Junior Joshua Grant races down the field toward Stetson University's goal cage. JMU held a 1-0 lead until minute 82 when Stetson tied the game.

RIGHT Sophomore Thomas Fouhy and Grant celebrate after scoring a goal on George Washington University. Grant was named to the second team by the Colonial Athletic Association.



WARRIOR *Spirit*

Soccer team refuses to back down

Fight. That's the word junior Marlee Stynchula used to describe the soccer team's strategy.

"It's kind of like our motto and it's kind of what we've had to do. Everything hasn't been great so far," said Stynchula. "But even when things aren't going great, we find a way to get it done and keep focused on what we want to achieve. And I don't think that's ever dropped off this year."

The team came out swinging during their first game of the season against in-state rival school, University of Richmond, winning 4-1.

"It was really exciting because in the past we hadn't been scoring as many goals as we wanted, so to come out right away and score a lot of goals and keep the tempo up was awesome," said Stynchula. "It showed that we were there to play the full 90 minutes. It was an awesome start."

The team planned to keep fighting to make it to the Colonial Athletic Association Regional Championships. Strong emphasis on senior leadership and integration of go-getter freshmen formed the backbone of their strategy.

"This is like a flashback from my freshman year

because we had great leadership and this year we have a really good freshman class," said senior Rebecca Sparks. "We're seeing the same kind of dynamic from our freshman class and we want to follow in our senior class's footsteps and create the same kind of team."

This strategy helped the team push further than in previous seasons.

"We're a more technical team than we have been and that's definitely playing to our advantage," said Stynchula. "We have the ability to pass the ball around; we're not just a kick and run team."

Along with acquiring a new strategy, the team dynamic also changed.

"There's more drive this year and more girls that understand what we want to achieve. Everybody fights every game," said Sparks. "We know we're a good team and we really wanted to prove that."

WORDS Haley Lambert

PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

SCOREBOARD

Date	Opponent	Result
08/23/13	Richmond	W 4-1
08/25/13	La Salle	L 1-2
08/30/13	Marshall	W 2-1
09/01/13	Tennessee	L 0-2
09/06/13	Villanova	W 3-2
09/08/13	Virginia Tech	L 1-3
09/13/13	Charlotte	W 3-2
09/15/13	Davidson	W 2-0
09/20/13	UNCG	W 2-0
09/22/13	Longwood	W 2-0
09/25/13	George Mason	W 2-1
09/28/13	William & Mary	L 1-2
10/03/13	Delaware	W 2-1
10/06/13	Drexel	W 2-0
10/13/13	Towson	W 2-1
10/18/13	UNCW	W 2-1
Overall		12-4
CAA		2-1



FIRST ROW Volunteer Assistant Coach Teri Maykoski, Rebecca Sparks, Carley Jenkins, Alyssa Zurlo, Shannon Rano, Kelly Abt, Allison Burner, Clara Conry
SECOND ROW Allison Bortell, Haley Miller, Lauren Wilson, Kelly Kerigan, Katherine Hyland, Elissa Hallik, Isabel Chang, Ashley Hemdon, Eileen Sechler, Madyson Brown. **THIRD ROW** Head Coach David Lombardo, Assistant Coach Rachel Chupein, Assistant Coach and Recruiting Coordinator Scott Gentry, Samantha Lofton, Meghan Cox, Rachel Ivey, Marlee Stynchula, Katherine Courter, Ellen Forrest, Margaret Buxton, Lauren Budzinski, Sydney Braun-McLeod, Stephanie Hamilton, Virginia Sroba.



TOP Senior Rebecca Sparks fights to keep the ball away from the opposing University of North Carolina, Wilmington player. The Dukes won the game 2-1, making their overall record 12-4.

LEFT Junior goalkeeper Marlee Stynchula takes a goal kick during a game against University of North Carolina, Greensboro. The Dukes controlled the ball for the majority of the game and beat the Spartans 2-0.

RIGHT Junior Katherine Hyland strikes the ball toward the goal. The team worked on scoring more goals per game in hopes of making it to the CAA Regional Championship.



SPYRIDON CHAKALOS

rejuvenates club paintball

"I

saw potential, I saw a team," said Spyridon Chakalos of the James Madison University club paintball team.

Coming in with only three members, the semi-professional athlete prepared to build the team from the ground up.

His first year, UREC was ready to drop the team as one of their sports. Chakalos urged them to give them a year, one he took to turn the team around. The next year, he served as president, secretary and treasurer, building a team to move forward. As a senior in 2013, Chakalos has served as president for three years.

During his first presidential term, he was able to get a speedball field from an old connection. Speedball, the form of paintball the team played, used inflatable bunkers on a 120 by 125 foot field to play a fast paced game. The other form, recreational paintball, was played in the woods, behind wooden structures and trees.

With no outdoor location, they were excited after seeing George Mason University play reeball, a game with reusable balls the size of paintballs to save money during practice, indoors. However, policy wouldn't allow the paintball markers inside.

Chakalos saw this as an opportunity to change a policy while informing people of his favorite sport. After reaching out to various officials around campus, he held a demonstration in the Mac gym to prove how safe the sport actually was. After this, officials realized he was right and now the 10 active members play inside every Tuesday and Wednesday from 8-11 p.m.

After becoming hooked on the sport 10 years ago at a friend's party, Chakalos has followed the sport all over the place. His goal was to take the team, through fundraising efforts, to the National Collegiate Paintball Association tournament in Florida. They gained sponsorship with Pevs Paintball, a resource for hopefully years to come.

Moving forward, Chakalos hoped to pursue professional opportunities in the sport, a chance he passed up to come to Harrisonburg, and pursue chiropractic studies at Palmer University in Florida.

He lived by his father's advice, "Winning and success are not defined by people that never fail, they are defined by people that never quit," a sentiment that his time at college and playing paintball have taught him.

WORDS Taylor Vollman

PHOTO Courtesy of Spyridon Chakalos

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



NICOLE BOLOGNA

takes the reins

A

top a saddle, senior Nicole Bologna served as the president of the equestrian club.

"When I was younger, I did every sport," said Bologna.

But out of all the sports, horseback riding stuck, and now 13 years later Bologna was still enjoying riding.

Her personal horse, Derek, was a Thoroughbred racing horse. He stayed at a local barn, where she rode him two to three times a week. In addition, she rode with the team's horses twice a week.

Trainer Alisa Berry required all competitive members to ride at least twice a week. The team started working with Berry during Bologna's freshman year.

Riding was costly, with \$1,500 to the trainer for lessons, \$50 for club dues and the other various expenses for helmets, saddles and attire. Many students dropped within the first three weeks.

The club had about 50 members, but Bologna was one of the 15 women on the competing team. The team competed in English style.

Bologna, like most members, entered with extensive knowledge, but beginners were encouraged, too. They competed in four to five meets in a semester, with regionals at the University of Virginia in the spring.

"We're doing pretty good," said Bologna. "We're holding our own this year."

Bologna looked back fondly on her last four years on the team. She decided to move up to historian her sophomore year, then moved to fundraising chair for junior year. Getting involved was one of the highlights of her college career.

Once Bologna was eligible to be the president, meaning she was a senior, she took the club's reins. While it meant more responsibility, it had its perks; she was given the chance to ride in the front.

WORDS Taylor Vollman

PHOTO Courtesy of Nicole Bologna

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



ZACHARY CUTTER

leads club baseball to victory

When students heard things like "second in the nation last year" or "runners up in the National Club Baseball Association tournament," they might have tended to think of big name teams like Duke University or Virginia Tech. However, they need not look further than their very own club baseball team.

After starting out slow, they made it to the regional conference as a wildcard, meaning that the team did not win their district but were lucky enough to fight their way into the tournament. The team went on to the NCBA tournament in Florida, making it all the way to the final where they were defeated 12-5 by a very strong Pennsylvania State University side.

"It was a great experience. We were definitely considered underdogs. Seeing as we didn't even win our conference it was a huge surprise to go on through to the national championship, much less make it all the way to the final," said senior Zachary Cutter.

Cutter was the president of the Dukes club baseball team.

"Zach is a great guy," said coach Andrew Green. "Aside from being a great hitter and a solid first baseman, he is a very personable guy. Whenever he walks on the field everyone knows they can go talk to him, and they usually do before the day is over."

As president, Cutter was in charge of many of the day-to-day operations of the club, such as scheduling games, organizing practices and getting new equipment from UREC's facility.

Cutter excelled at being there for the team as someone they could place their trust in. He was not only respected as a player but as a leader and a person off the field. He was a president that superseded the boundaries of executives and normal players on a team, while at the same time maintaining order.

"I suppose my main responsibility as president would be to be a leader and a motivator, on and off the field," said Cutter.

After a successful 2013 season, the team began training to follow up with an impressive 2014 season.

"We're a close group of guys and we're all talented in our sport, but that doesn't mean we have to give up the social aspect of our college experience. Many of the guys live together, and those that don't often frequent each other's places," said Cutter. "I know we can get to the national tournament again if we put our minds to it."

WORDS & PHOTO Matthew Sackett
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



BRIAN DONOVAN

plays for the quidditch cup

Who said magic doesn't exist? Straight from the world of "Harry Potter," Quidditch captured the interest of both book worms and athletes here at the university.

The game of Quidditch was more competitive than someone might have initially thought. It has been described as "a combination of rugby and dodgeball," and even as "soccer on crack" by Michael Haddad and Brian Donovan, respectively. The high intensity game lasted only about 30 minutes on average, but every player was worn out by the time it finished. It was a full-contact sport, but had a sense of humor as well.

"I actually got silly-stringed in a game against William & Mary," said sophomore Brian Donovan, the president of the Quidditch team.

Certainly an unconventional sport, Quidditch would be hard to get used to. The idea of college students running around a field with a broom between their legs struck most people as strange. And with the chasers trying to score, the beaters knocking people off their brooms and the seekers running all over the place trying to catch the snitch, who was just a person in a yellow pennie, nobody could blink for too long or else they missed something. Even the rules were difficult to keep track of. A new edition of the rule book came out almost once a year, keeping everyone on their toes.

"One of my favorite parts of Quidditch is that it is basically mind-candy for the full 30 minutes," said Donovan.

Quidditch was also one of the only sports with an official gender rule. The rule stated that each team needed at least two players from both genders to be able to compete. The ladies weren't ignored in this sport, but even without the rule, they might not have been anyway.

"A little cute girl sprinted at me and tackled me," said Donovan. "It changed the way I look at sports."

Whether a Harry Potter fan, or a curious athlete, the magic of Quidditch brought many different individuals together to create a unique and exciting club.

WORDS George Agrios
PHOTO Courtesy of Brian Donovan
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

jumping to NEW HEIGHTS

Young team unites and improves

The men's basketball team had a challenging season coming off of a championship and National Collegiate Athletic Association appearance last year.

"Last year's team, when we started to win, they expected to win. This year, no matter what happens in the previous game, win or loss, there isn't necessarily the knowledge that they are absolutely going to win," said Head Coach Matthew Brady. "I think we're growing as a team and we're getting better."

On the 2014 roster, there were three groups of players, according to Brady, who served his sixth year as head coach for the Dukes.

"We have an experienced sixth-year senior in Andrey Semenov [who's] had some really good games. We have a sophomore class that has critical roles and we need those guys to play well to give ourselves a chance to win," said Brady. "We have a really surprising group of freshmen from all different countries, but they've given us great energy and a certain amount of toughness that's been beneficial, even to our sophomores."

One of those freshmen was Jackson Kent.

"I've had to overcome getting stronger and being more physical in games," said Kent.

The season was about improving in practice and finding those roles on and off the court for the players.

"We're watching more tape of our own practices everyday, so we splice up video of pros and cons of everything," said Brady. "We watch more tape with a young group because some

players learn on the court and some of these guys are better visual learners."

It seemed to be working.

"We worked on boxing out, competing and paying more attention to detail," said Kent who received Colonial Athletic Association Rookie of the Week during the season.

Although the team was mostly sophomores and freshmen, the bond between the players became stronger.

"[This year] may be the best camaraderie and chemistry. There are so many guys close in age and the roles are pretty well defined," said Brady. "The atmosphere is terrific, and they've taken on the challenge of being the youngest team in Division I basketball with the right mindset. We are trying to work hard to get better."

The young Dukes learned what it took to win at the collegiate level without having a strong upperclassmen backbone. By making the most out of practices and trying to improve every day, they had high hopes for the rest of their season.

"[We're] not looking past any one day. We're improving every day as a team," said Brady. "We've got to lay a foundation and we think we're doing that every day in practice."

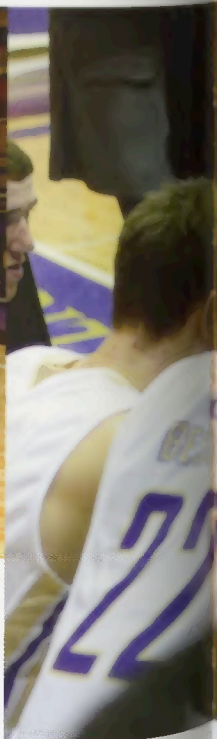
WORDS Courtney Ambrose

PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



FRONT ROW Manager Joshua Warren, Christian Pierce, Paulius Satkus, Thomas Vodanovich, Charles Cooke, Andre Nation, Ronald Curry Jr., Ivan Lukic, Jackson Kent, Thomas Rivard, Shawn Wilbome, Manager Michael Qura. **BACK ROW** Graduate Assistant Coach Samuel Dowell, Athletic Trainer Calton Hall Jr., Manager Joseph Kuykendall, Assistant Coach Williams Phillips, Yohanny Dalember, Taylor Bessick, Head Coach Matthew Brady, Dimitrije Cabarkapa, Andrey Semenov, Director of Operations Robert Summers Jr., Strength and Conditioning Coach Gregory Werner, Assistant Coach Michael Deane, Assistant Head Coach Robert O'Driscoll Jr.





SCOREBOARD

Date	Opponent	Result
11/08/13	Virginia	L 41-61
11/14/13	Northern Illinois	W 60-55
11/16/13	Milwaukee	L 66-77
11/17/13	San Jose State	W 79-66
11/19/13	Detroit	L 67-71
11/23/13	Valparaiso	L 49-81
11/27/13	Wintrop	L 57-69
11/30/13	Richmond	L 53-68
12/06/13	Sam Houston State	L 76-77
12/07/13	Stephen F. Austin	L 57-70
12/14/13	High Point	W 84-69
12/18/13	UNCG	L 65-78
12/21/13	Hampton	W 55-49
12/30/13	Ball State	W 73-68
01/04/14	UNCW	W 60-55
01/07/14	Charleston	L 61-75
01/11/14	Delaware	L 74-78
01/15/14	Northeastern	L 52-56
01/18/14	William and Mary	L 56-78
01/25/14	Charleston	W 58-56
01/29/14	Northeastern	W 49-46
02/02/14	William and Mary	L 79-81
02/04/14	Towson	L 71-80
02/08/14	Drexel	L 60-78
02/10/14	Hofstra	W 59-53
02/12/14	Delaware	L 65-81
02/15/14	UNCW	W 64-62
02/19/14	Drexel	W 63-61
Overall		11-17
CAA		5-4



TOP Sophomore Charles Cooke goes for a layup. Cooke's offense helped the team secure a win of 73-68, and he contributed six steals. **LEFT** During a timeout against Detroit, Coach Matthew Brady strategized with the team. At halftime the Dukes were down 33-32. **RIGHT** Sophomore Andre Nation dunks the ball on the University of Delaware's defense. During the first half timeout, the new football head coach, Everett Withers, was introduced.

SCOREBOARD

Date	Opponent	Result
11/08/13	Virginia	W 63-46
11/12/13	Liberty	W 67-56
11/21/13	Richmond	W 78-68
11/24/13	Alcorn State	W 87-42
11/29/13	UCLA	W 77-67
11/30/13	Mississippi State	L 65-52
12/01/13	Wright State	L 77-79
12/04/13	Pittsburgh	W 71-61
12/14/13	Prairie View A&M	W 79-50
12/15/13	St. John's	W 64-51
12/18/13	Vanderbilt	L 85-89
12/29/13	Ohio University	W 56-33
12/30/13	Norfolk State	W 94-50
01/02/14	North Carolina	L 71-74
01/12/14	Delaware	W 87-51
01/16/14	Towson	W 62-57
01/19/14	Hofstra	W 77-50
01/23/14	Drexel	W 74-47
01/26/14	UNCW	W 77-41
01/31/14	College of Charleston	W 92-59
02/04/14	William and Mary	W 72-48
02/07/14	Northeastern	W 85-57
02/09/14	Towson	W 82-40
02/14/14	UNCW	W 92-43
02/16/14	Drexel	W 69-58
02/20/14	Delaware	W 72-61
Overall		22-4
CAA		12-0

RISING. empire

Women's basketball team plans to win it all

Rome wasn't built in a day. Aside from being a handy proverb that taught the virtue of patience, it was a phrase that represented the women's basketball team.

Patience was more often than not rewarding, and with a bit of hard work, the rewards could be tremendous.

Historically, the women's basketball team always asserted its dominance. However, in the past few years, the team reveled in a revival of sorts, the beginnings of a true sports' empire.

"I think there's good potential," said sophomore cheerleader Rachel Mendelson. "A lot of the good players are really young."

In the 2010-2011 season, the team appeared in the National Collegiate Athletics Association Women's Division I Tournament. The following seasons boasted back-to-back semi-final appearances in the Women's National Invitational Tournament, including a victory over Syracuse

in 2012. These impressive displays were only the beginning for the upstart basketball empire, as the 2013-2014 season saw some of the team's best performances.

"We wanted to come out and make a statement," said senior guard Kirby Burkholder.

The team accumulated one of the most impressive records in the conference. Among the more dominant performances were an 82-40 demolition of Towson and a 94-50 dismantling of Norfolk State. The team's confidence remained high as they looked ahead.

"We feel very confident," said Burkholder. "We want to finish our regular season strong."

The team played with a will to win and dominate. The aim had always been to prove themselves, to show that they deserved their position as one of the best teams in the conference and to assert themselves on the national stage.

To achieve this, the team

practiced with intensity and focused only on victory, determined to overtake all competitors.

"I think we're going to go pretty far, tournament-wise," said Mendelson.

The emerging powerhouse barreled through the competition, working toward glory on the national level. Every legendary team could boast at least one championship, a reminder that, at that moment, there was no team that could compete.

"We definitely want the NCAA," said Burkholder. "We're tired of the WNIT."

If there was one word that could come close to describing the women's basketball team, it would be ambition. Rome might not have been built in a day, but sometimes patience needed to take a backseat to ambition. Ambition built empires.

WORDS Gregory Wilson

PHOTOS JMU Athletics

Communications

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



FIRST ROW Alysia Rohlehr, Samantha Mitchell, Amani Tatum, Kirby Burkholder, Nicole Newman, Precious Hall, Angela Mickens, Destiny Jones, Toia Giggetts. **SECOND ROW** Graduate Assistant Coach Luis Genao, Assistant Coach Jennifer Brown, Director of Operations Timothy Clark, Jazmon Gwathmey, Crystal Ross, Associate Head Coach Sean O'Regan, Head Coach Kenneth Brooks, Lauren Okafor, Da'Lishia Griffin, Strength & Conditioning Coach Gregory Werner, Assistant Coach Sarah Williams, Athletic Trainer Erin Cash.






LEFT Senior Kirby Burkholder shoots a three-pointer. By the end of the 2013 season, Burkholder had made 181 three-pointers in her entire career. **RIGHT** Sophomore Precious Hall keeps the ball away from an Alcorn State player. The team won against Alcorn by 45 points.

just add WATER

Swim & dive kills competition



At the beginning of their season, the women's swim and dive team dominated every meet they competed in. On Homecoming weekend in November, the team competed at its only home meet of the year, the Colonial Athletic Association POD Meet.

This three-day meet held in Godwin Hall, included teams from the University of Delaware, University of North Carolina at Wilmington and the College of William & Mary. At the end of the weekend, the team was at the top of the leader board by a large margin, crushing it's competition.

Sophomore swimmer Susanne Gingher competed in the 400-yard and 200-yard medley relays in which the university placed first.

"I love competing at home because there is a bigger crowd to support you, including

family and friends," said Gingher. "We really get into the meet because we don't want the other team beating us in our pool."

Sophomore diver Carly Alexander placed third for both her 1-meter and 3-meter dives over the course of the weekend.

"Competing at home is more fun and exciting because we do cheers and know most of the people in the crowd," said Alexander.

While the training for this important meet didn't change, the team came out of the weekend victorious.

"Training was pretty much the same on diving," said Alexander. "We're always working hard and wanted to come out strong against our conference opponents."

Both the swim and dive teams won by considerably large margins against every school. They scored a 248 to UNC Wilmington's 105, a 243 to Delaware's 110

and a 223 to W & M's 124.

"Winning against every school was good motivation heading into the second half of the season," said Alexander. "It's nice to get a small taste of what the competition at conference is going to be like."

But winning wasn't everything.

"Winning is a big part to our swimming, however we don't really care about the amount as long as we go out, have fun and try to push ourselves," said Gingher.

Motivation to compete, win and have a good time while doing it was a huge part of the team during the weekend and over the entire season.

WORDS Courtney Ambrose
PHOTOS JMU Athletics Communications
DESIGN Lauren Stearns



FRONT ROW Kristen Zielinski, Claire Adkins, Morgan Johnson, Addy Morrison, Jennifer Vieni, Emma Richer, Ashley Clark, Shannon Dubay. **SECOND ROW** Lindsay Bosek, Nina Tremols, Carly Alexander, Jacqueline Crawford, Stephanie Clarke, Taryn McLaughlin, Amanda Presgraves, Sin Hye Won, Madalyn Murphy. **THIRD ROW** Alexandra Savage, Carli Molano, Camilla Czulada, Aimee Hooper, Susanne Gingher, Cameron Martin, Kacy Edsall, Olivia Lehman, Katherine Sheppard.



A swimmer prepares to dismount from the diving board. She is surrounded by the swimming records of her peers.



SCOREBOARD

Date	Opponent	Result
10/04/13	Radford	W 166-72
10/11/13	Liberty	L 158-192
10/11/13	Virginia Tech	L 94-259
10/11/13	Radford	W 279-74
10/11/13	North Carolina	L 81-273
11/01/13	Delaware	W 243-110
11/01/13	William & Mary	W 223-124
11/02/13	UNCW	W 248-105
Overall		5-3
CAA		3-0

in the LINE OF FIRE

Club Dodgeball becomes nationally recognized

"We both made the team after the night of tryouts and decided to play. One of the best decisions I've made at JMU," said sophomore Marianne Conover.

Conover tried out for club dodgeball with her friends on a whim at the beginning of her freshman year. Originally, she tried out with no intention of actually making the team. However, after making the team, she realized joining club dodgeball would become a life-changing experience.

"The best part about playing dodgeball is the friends you make. Whether it is the people on your team, or other teams you meet at tournaments, and even the national tournament," said Conover. "This organization is a really great way to make new friends. The JMU dodgeball team is more than just friends, we are a family."

The team had 75 members,

and compensated for injuries or unavailability because of their large roster.

College-level dodgeball was similar to how it was portrayed in the movies and at the high school level. There were 15 players on the court at once with a couple players on the bench. There were no major rule changes, except for policies about how long a player could go without throwing.

As of fall 2013, James Madison University was ranked second in the nation behind reigning national champions, Grand Valley State University.

Even though the structure of dodgeball might have seemed quite similar to a varsity sport, it was very different.

"It's nowhere near as serious as a varsity sport. Instead it is more like a club sport," said Conover.

Beside practicing and preparing

for tournaments, club dodgeball was an active organization on campus. The team volunteered to work at concession stands during home football and basketball games.

After a year playing for the team, Conover said she would not know what she would be doing with her time if she were not on the dodgeball team.

"I already spend three days with them just by going to practice. On Fridays and Saturdays, we all usually hang out or go out. We are all surrounded by each other five out of the seven days in a week, which helps to build that family-like feeling," said Conover. "All in all, Dodgeball is a really fun time with some great people and I'm glad I joined the team."

WORDS & PHOTOS Paige Lobuts
DESIGN Lauren Stearns



The dodgeball team holds a scrimmage game. The team practiced every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday.

swinging through LIFE





LEFT Students practice their moves at a meeting. The club taught many different styles of dance.

RIGHT Two female students dance together. Club Members were able to learn both follow and lead this way.

Swing dance club teaches students the classics

"It don't mean a thing if you ain't got that swing," Sonny Burgess sang.

The swing dance club met twice a week. Mondays were a chance for beginners to start and Wednesdays for intermediates to advance their skills. The club was taught primarily by the executive board and the long-term members. Everyone danced the East Coast, the Charleston and the Lindy.

They held two dances a semester, one with a live band and one with a DJ. Their social chair, Stephanie Carney, coordinated these dances and reached out to other dance clubs and schools. Carney, a senior in 2013 joined as a junior to meet new people. Before every dance, a small lesson took place for outside visitors, encouraging dancers from every skill level to come out and have fun with the club.

Other than just their dances, the club performed for events such as theme dinners and Assisted Living Homes. And on campus, they performed at Operation Santa Clause and Student Organization Night.

Carney's favorite moment was when she participated in "Dancing with the Stars" last year to support suicide prevention.

"It's very, very informal," said Carney, discussing the misconception of swing dance being like

ballroom dancing.

Other surprising facts included how fun it was and how many styles were under the subhead of swing dance. The club also learned how to dance to classic and modern music.

"We'll teach you how to dance," said junior Anna Bergin, the swing dance club president.

Bergin used swing dance as a way to fill the void left after she found out that the university did not have Irish dance. She loved the chance to perform in any capacity, especially when there was a theme.

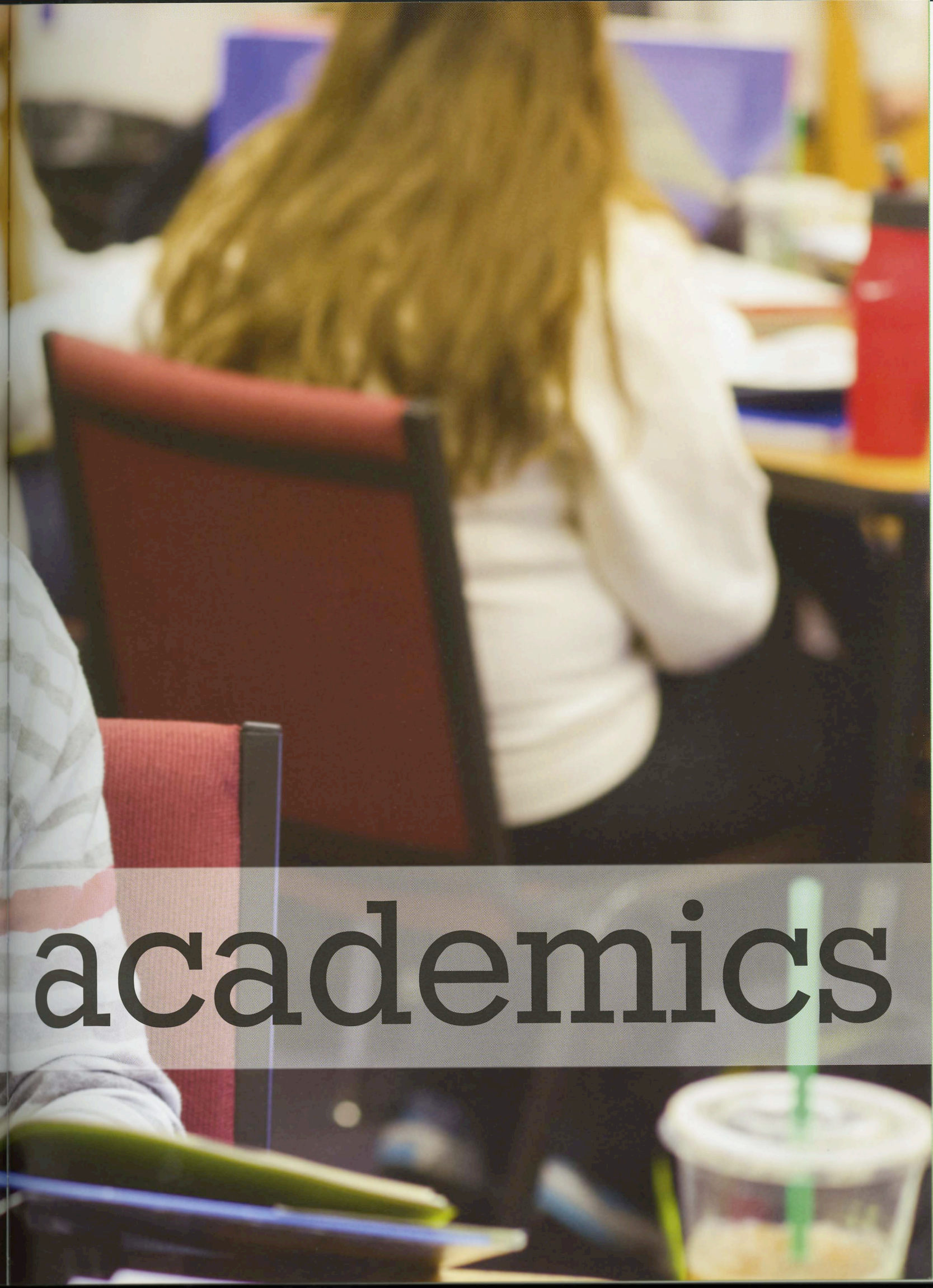
As president, Bergin made sure everyone was doing their job and teaching other students adequately.

Since there were so many females in the program, many ended up dancing both lead and follow. It worked out best if people did not come in with a partner, affording many the chance to dance with others. This way, they were able to practice their skills with varying styles.

"Anybody can come in and dance with us," said Bergin.

WORDS Taylor Vollman
PHOTOS Madeline Williams
DESIGN Elizabeth Wertz





academics

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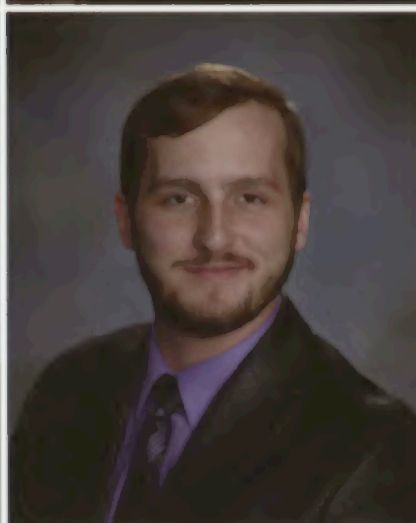
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shades of DANCE

Senior Alexis Johnson-Gresham had been on Nuance Purple, the higher level of the JMU Winterguard, for the past four years.

WORDS Dominique Escalera

PHOTO Courtesy of Nuance Winter Guard

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

Q: What is Nuance?

A: It's JMU's winterguard program. We're a competitive group that travels nationally to compete on regional, national and international levels.

Q: What exactly does winterguard include?

A: It's a sport of the arts. It combines the athleticism with theatre and dance in a short piece that tells a story.

Q: What's the story this year?

A: The piece is called 'Allure.' The instructor, Carly Philp, came up with the show based on a peacock feather.

Q: Do you know the show in advance?

A: No, we have to wait the entire fall semester, guessing what it's going to be, and finally getting a small hint of it at auditions.

Q: How time consuming is Nuance?

A: On average we practice three times a week and have a competition every weekend until championship, which is in April.

Q: How do you manage to do classwork?

A: Sometimes I'm just lucky I make it from one day to the next! I always have something for every minute of the day. I feel like a lot of people hesitate, saying they don't have time, but if you want to do something you make time for it and work to make it fit.

Q: Do you have free time?

A: I cherish every free moment I get. I don't like having too much free time, though, because then I squander it. Being busy has its advantages because you squeeze the work in because you know you won't have time for it later.

Q: How do you think Nuance impacts the university?

A: We are in the unique position to do something we love and share it with various communities. A vast majority of our current guard saw JMU Nuance perform at a competition when they were in high school and decided they wanted to come here based on that.

Q: Why is Nuance and Colorguard important to you?

A: Teachers always say it's not about the specifics, it's about discipline, commitment, dedication. These are skills we can utilize as adults.

Q: Why do you compete?

A: I love to perform! The feeling you get when you're doing it and when you're done. For five minutes on the floor or 15 minutes on the field you get to be another person, in another place and tell a story in a unique way. And when you're done, you feel complete and satisfied, like you conquered the world. And I just love it.

“at the end of the day, **I'M INSANELY THANKFUL**,
because the growth i've had as a person
wouldn't be possible without the
EDUCATION
and **SUPPORT**
nuance gave me.”

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international business
management
marketing
quantitative finance
sport & recreation management

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Megan Adcock
Accounting

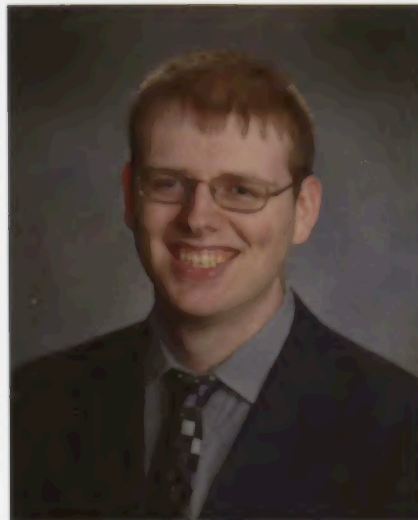
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Joshua Wilson
Marketing

Amie York
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Students enjoy the view while studying on East Campus. The view provided a relaxing environment to get work done.

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Studies*





Senior Rachel Taccl breaks down the meaning of "creativity" in her student-taught class. JMU Teach gave students the chance to share their passions and educate their peers.

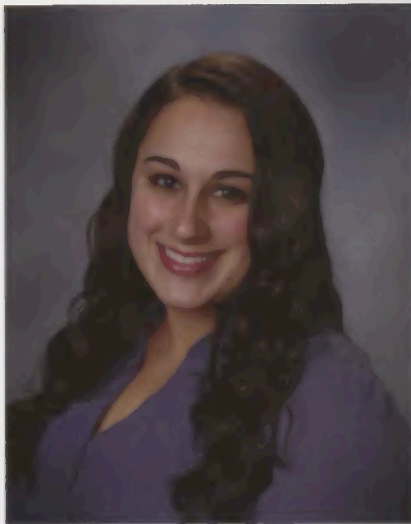
COLLEGE OF
health
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nursing
psychology
social work

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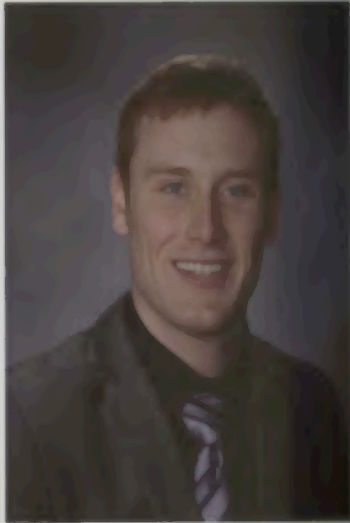
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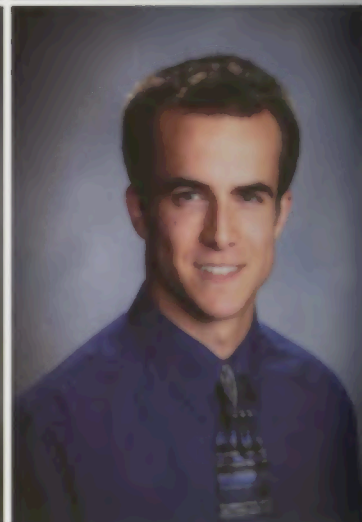
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caninecompanion

We met with Dr. Colleen Tennyson to discuss Francis, a therapy dog, who worked with students in Varner House to calm anxiety and fears.

WORDS Paige Lobuts

PHOTO Courtesy of Rachel Tysinger

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan



Q: How and when did Varner House decide to get a therapy dog?

A: While Varner House was excited about the opportunity to start an Animal Assisted Therapy program, it took a lot of preparation before Francis started working. It took approximately one year to train Francis and develop campus policies to incorporate Animal Assisted Therapy. Francis began working with students in the spring 2011 semester.

Q: Did Varner House specifically choose Francis for the job?

A: Yes! While Francis was adopted from the local Harrisonburg SPCA, the intention was to find a dog that could be trained as an animal therapist. The most important quality for an animal therapist is a friendly disposition, and Francis definitely has this.

Q: How much of an impact has Francis made on JMU students?

A: Francis had made a very positive impact on JMU students, both clients and non-clients. Students who work with him in counseling report feeling less anxious, more relaxed and happier when they can work with Francis. Francis helps students get more comfortable with the therapy experience and helps them feel supported. One student reported that Francis offers "unconditional love." Francis also helps non-client students through his outreach efforts. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, Francis generally walks around the commons with Counseling Center interns to greet other students. He always gets a warm response from students. With the recent launch of the JMU Francis Facebook page, Francis is getting lots of positive comments.

Q: What are his responsibilities and tasks as a therapy dog?

A: Animal Assisted Therapy involves intentional, goal-directed use of an animal in a therapeutic setting. The animal therapist may be used to ease client anxiety or reduce depressive symptoms. The animal therapist is also helpful when clients are trying to improve skills (for example, assertiveness or boundary setting). Francis works particularly well with students experiencing depression, anxiety, grief, eating disorders and post traumatic stress disorder. Each appointment looks differently with Francis. In some appointments, the student will call Francis up on his or her lap and the human-animal bond will help students experience, understand and talk about difficult emotions. Sometimes, Francis will interact more with the clinician. This allows the clinician to role-model different behaviors such as being an assertive pack leader, setting boundaries and offering care and compassion to an animal. And at times, Francis gets tired and will just nap on the floor. Having an animal therapist in the room, even without direct interaction, helps create a safe therapeutic environment.

Q: Do you believe people benefit from a therapy dog's services?

A: Overall, yes, I definitely believe that people can benefit from a therapy dog. Francis helps clients experience unconditional acceptance and empathy. He helps motivate clients to attend and participate in the therapy and provides relief of painful emotions. He also offers benefits to office staff through his warm and friendly demeanor. However, there can be risks. These are often mitigated by being intentional and conscientious. Individuals with allergies or phobias would not benefit from work with Francis. Some clients may get too distracted by Francis and avoid engaging in therapy. But with goal-directed use, clinicians can minimize any negative experiences with Francis.

Q: Beyond Francis' job at Varner House, what is he like and who takes care of him?

A: Outside of his work as an animal therapist, Francis loves to get brushed, go for walks and of course, chase squirrels. He loves to snuggle with his family, be pet (especially on the belly) and give kisses. Sometimes he naps in a warm sunbeam (even while working) since dogs have a greater need for sleep than people. He is the personal pet of Dr. Tennyson, the psychiatrist at Varner House.

COLLEGE OF
integrated
science &
engineering

computer science
engineering
integrated science and technology

Kerianne Bertolino
*Integrated Science
& Technology*

Thomas DiGregorio
Computer Science

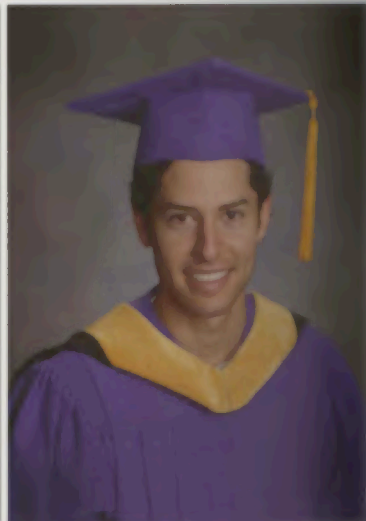
Robert Harris
Computer Science



Christopher Hogan
*Integrated Science
& Technology*

Andrew Hutchison
Computer Science

Michael Kapnick
Computer Science



John LeMaire
Engineering

Colin McShane
Engineering

Haley Moberg
Engineering



John Quackenbush
Engineering

Dustyn Reeser
*Integrated Science
& Technology*

Margaret Robinson
Engineering





Mark Robinson
*Integrated Science &
Technology*

Melissa Szymanski
Intelligence Analysis

Ethan Thompson
Engineering



Daniel Van Gorder
Computer Science

Melissa Von Wald
Computer Science

COLLEGE OF
science
mathematics

astronomy
biology
biochemistry
chemistry
earth science
geology
mathematics
physics
statistics

Jeremy Abeel
Physics

Ruxandra Andriescu
Biology

Cassie Baier
Biology



Michele Barber
Biology

Lindsay Cunningham
Biology

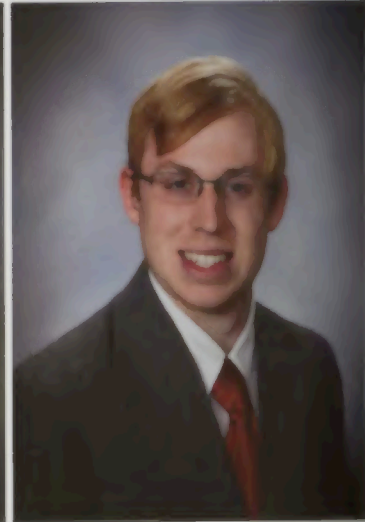
Meredith Dhillon
Biology



Loren Dove
Biology

Shannon Dubay
Biology

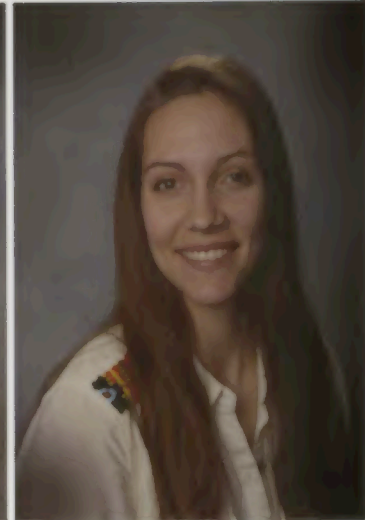
Edwin Dunnavan
Physics



Gerard Fantano
Biology

Haley Farmer
Biology

Sydney Fisher
Chemistry





Jeanne Guillen
Geographic Science

Dora Hsieh
Biology

Bryan Isherwood
Physics



Ellen Keel
Mathematics

Megan Laskey
Geographic Science

Samantha Leonetti
Mathematics



Margaret Maruschak
Physics

Brittany McCarthy
Biotechnology

Kimberly Mervine
Geology



Dillon Miller
Biology

Kimberly Okafor
Biology

Devin Ortiz
Biology

Katherine Pijanowski
Geology

Lauren Rodgers
Biology

Erin Schmitt
Geology



William Shoemaker
Biology

Michele Stahlberger
Biology

Carly Elizabeth Starke
Biotechnology



Chester Szwejkowski
Physics

Helen White
Geographic Science

Tsung-Yu Wu
Chemistry



Jun Yan
Biology



turtlebots, ROLL OUT

Students and professors build robots with new capabilities

"It's the wild West," said robotics professor Nathan Sprague.

Ironically, the crickets seemed to chirp as 10 robots sat quietly on the bookshelf. The TurtleBots looked like CD dispensers with digital scanners. The AR.Drones resembled air vents with two circular fans on either side.

Sprague taught one of the core classes within the robotics minor. The course, Introduction to Autonomous Robotics, focused on building robots to solve problems independently.

Sprague studied brain science and how intelligence works in people. He used robots as an experimental platform.

"I am much closer now to being able to sort of classify myself as a roboticist," said Sprague.

Engineering professor Robert Nagel was a faculty adviser for the capstone projects that took place in the lab.

Students built a remote control robot that was capable of driving over forest terrain while holding a DSLR camera. Their goal was for the robot to use the camera to take a picture of a black bear.

The rectangular framework, or chassis, of the robot was aluminum with two front wheels and one trailing wheel with suspension. The scissor lift bolted to the chassis lifted and secured the camera.

When it pertained to the "go-to" man in robotics, Nagel found Sprague to be the "obvious" choice.

"For him, that's what he lives, breathes and sleeps as far as I can tell," said Nagel.

Sprague was the faculty adviser for the JMU Robotics Club. Meetings took place once a week and was open to all members of the community.

John Alger was a club member who worked for the Information Technology department.

"We're not building the robots piece by piece, we're programming the logic to move the robot chassis," said Alger.

One of the club's past projects, George the Butler Robot, was a TurtleBot that was programmed to follow students around and do what they commanded of him. He used a GMapping launch file to map the surrounding area.

George used the map to move around while students gave commands to him through a microphone attached to a laptop sitting on top of his frame.

Matthew Warren worked with the robotics club since it began over a year ago. He said Sprague has a knack for conveying complicated information.

"He was able to explain it in a way where you understand what's going on without understanding all the math," said Warren.

Sprague wanted others to think in a sophisticated way about robots, automation, robotic limitations and its promises.

"More and more things that people used to do, machines do now," said Sprague.

He said things will continue to go in that direction, with robotics having a big impact on our world in the future.

WORDS Raven Beaty
DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

COLLEGE OF
visual
&
performing
arts

art education
art history
art, graphic design
art, interior architecture
art, studio
music
theatre and dance

Sadie Albert
Theater

Blair Ashby
Music Education

Miles Blunt
Music Industry



Stephanie Carney
Studio Art

Sarah Casey
Music Performance

Zoe Crooks
Interior Architecture



Janie Darone
Music Education

Laura Debusk
Graphic Design

Danielle Fagan
Music Performance



Brittany Hoehlein
Dance

Arijana Lempke
Music

Andrea Lockard
Music Performance





Brittany Newman
Interior Architecture

Bethany Old
Art History

Nicholas White
Music Industry

you can be ANYTHING

Japanese Butoh showcased at Forbes



Butoh dancers posed during their performance at Forbes Center for the Performing Arts. The symbols the girls portrayed were trees and leaves.

Stop. Think about trees and leaves. Imagine how they move. You are now a tree or a leaf. Your body has taken over.

This phenomenon was called Butoh, which according to the Butoh Net could be defined as "contemporary avant-garde dance form which originated in Japan and which was first performed there in 1959."

Sophomore Melany Schwarz was a member of the university's production of Butoh.

"You have an image and you let that image affect your body," said Schwarz.

An example of this is a warm-up exercise that the group did, which included them imagining that they had a fish swimming around in their stomachs.

Schwarz explained that in Butoh, the choreographer gives the dancers a symbol or image and they are instructed to let their imaginations make them into that symbol or image. During the shows, the dancers make distinctive sounds that signal to the other dancers that they should change their image and their dance.

"Your body reacts in an honest way. It is very interesting to watch," said Schwarz.

The group did not have costumes for the Butoh show. They arrived before the show was going to start and wiped a soft paste of crushed

sea shells and water all over their naked bodies.

This Butoh show was marked as the first time in Butoh history that a show was done in a university in the United States.

Schwarz was a part of the group of nine girls that were in the Butoh show that was put on in January in the Earlynn J. Miller Dance Theater at Forbes. There were three shows in the showcase, which included a solo performance by adjunct professor, Julia Vessey, and two group pieces done by students that were choreographed by Vessey and Takuya Muramasu, a choreographer from Japan's Dairakudakan Company.

Muramasu was brought over from Japan to do a two-week residency with the Dance Department at the university. Vessey taught a Butoh class last semester that the dancers were required to take if they wanted to be in the residency. Vessey was the only known female in the Western Hemisphere that had been trained in Butoh; she lived and trained in Japan early in her dance career.

Click. Relax your body. You are human again.

WORDS Colleen Lentile

PHOTOS Courtesy of Mary Petrizzi

DESIGN Rebecca Sullivan

underclassmen

freshmen
sophomores
juniors

Oluwatosin Adesanya-Olaley

Jennifer Asbell

Gregory Bahou



Frederick Carranza

Aimme Chen

Nannan Chen



Michelle Criqui

Jessica Crowley

Alicia Davis



Andrew Haveles

Morgan Howell

Jing Jing Jin





Brandon Liu
Sydnie Long
Jennifer Louie



Alison Miles
Sarah Musa
Monica Paneru

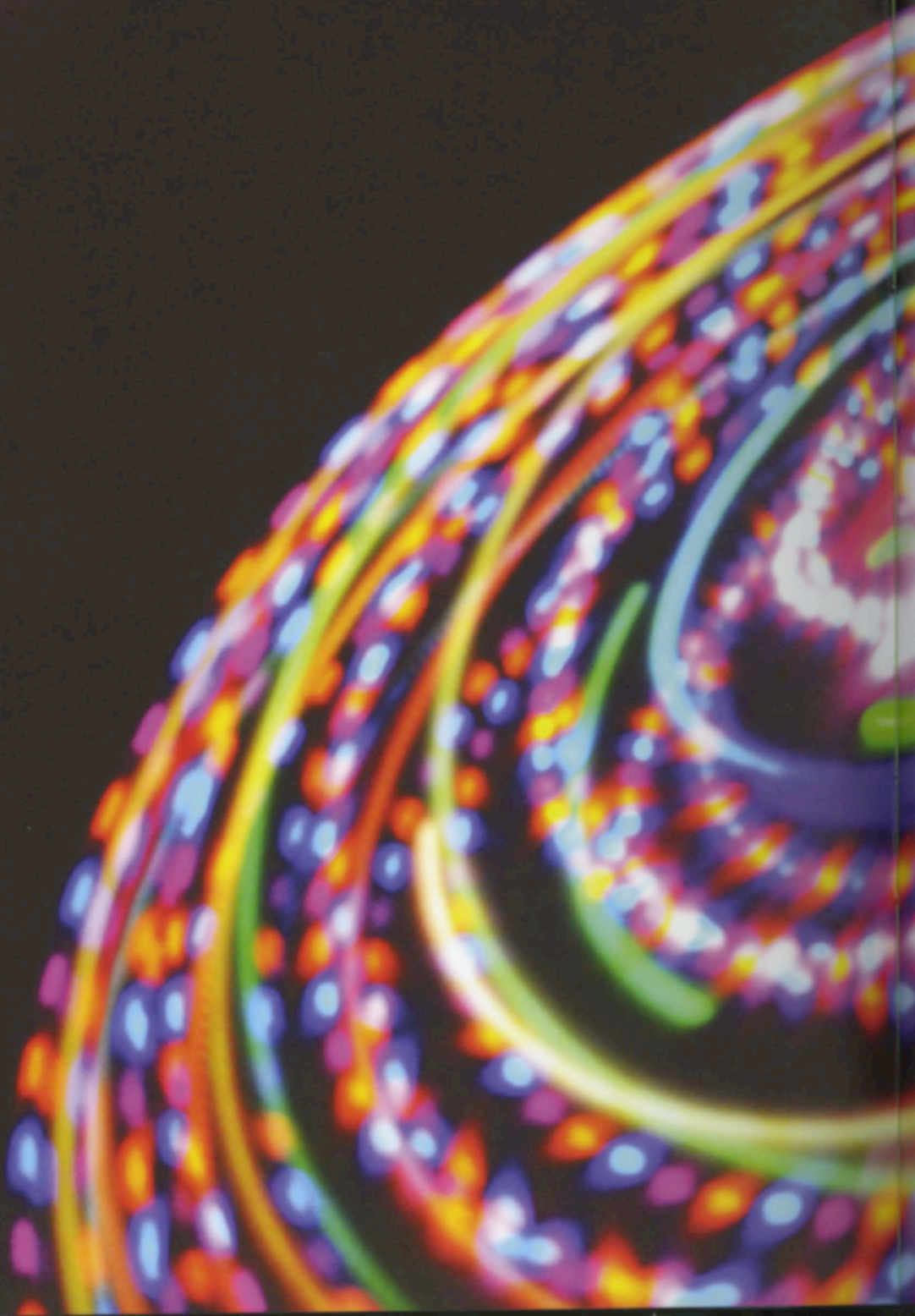


Mary Pitts
Jessica Roberts
Samantha Thompson



Kaleigh Wood
Caseybeth Yelverton

organizations





OMEGA PSI PHI



FIRST ROW Anthony Sutton, Lemende' Coley, Brent Butler, Xavia Gary.

omega psi phi

sought to unite college men under the ideals of scholarship and manhood so that they might reach goals, constructively impact political life and foster and encourage the independence, dignity and humanity of each member.



Members of Omega Psi Phi man a table on the Commons for a blood drive during Omega Week. Omega Week was a weeklong series of events held to mark the 102 anniversary of the fraternity.

DELTA GAMMA



FIRST ROW Angela DiMattina, Loan Nguyen, Hunter Kelly, Jessica Reeder, Madison Alexander, Maria Wilkins. **SECOND ROW** Ashley Littman, Erin Matthews, Sarah Lauren Miller, Lauren Savage, Rachel Korba, Holly Caitlin Farris, Rachel Bramhall, Claire Wiesinger, Shannon Douglass. **THIRD ROW** Marissa Schade, Mariah Thomas, Marissa von Kannewurf, Alexis Frye, Melissa Jackson, Rachel Berry, Katherine Schwartz, Ashley McMillan.



LEFT Delta Gamma awaits members on Bid Day 2013. The anchor was the sorority's most-recognized symbol. **RIGHT** Members of Delta Gamma pose for a group photo after Bid Day. Sisters cheered each new bid during spring.



ASIAN STUDENT UNION



FIRST ROW Paulo Dorado, Aileen Anonas, Abdullah Mamun, Francesca Evangelista, Quynh Nguyen. **SECOND ROW** Jiangda Ou, Francis Malone, Vivian Diep, James Battle, Justin Lee.

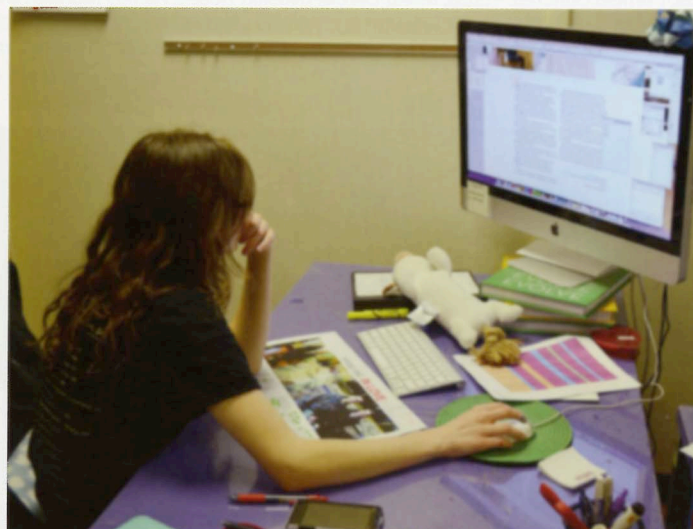


LEFT Members of the Asian Student Union dress as chefs during a presentation. The organization strove to raise awareness about Asian cultures. **TOP** Asian Student Union members pose for a photo at a club gathering. The group held an annual culture show to showcase talent and celebrate different Asian cultures.

THE BLUESTONE



FIRST ROW Elizabeth Wertz, Paige Lobuts, Abigail Walter, Haley Lambert. **SECOND ROW** Julie Hirschhorn, Michelle Criqui, Danielle Lerer, George Agrios, Claire Fogarty, Colleen Lentile, Mary Pitts.



LEFT Seniors Claire Fogarty and Elizabeth Wertz edit pages during deadline weekend. For each of the four deadline weekends, members of the editorial board spent the entire weekend cooped up in Roop Hall to produce the yearbook. **TOP** Senior Haley Lambert makes corrections to a page. The editorial board read and edited each page three times before sending proofs to their publishing company.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION



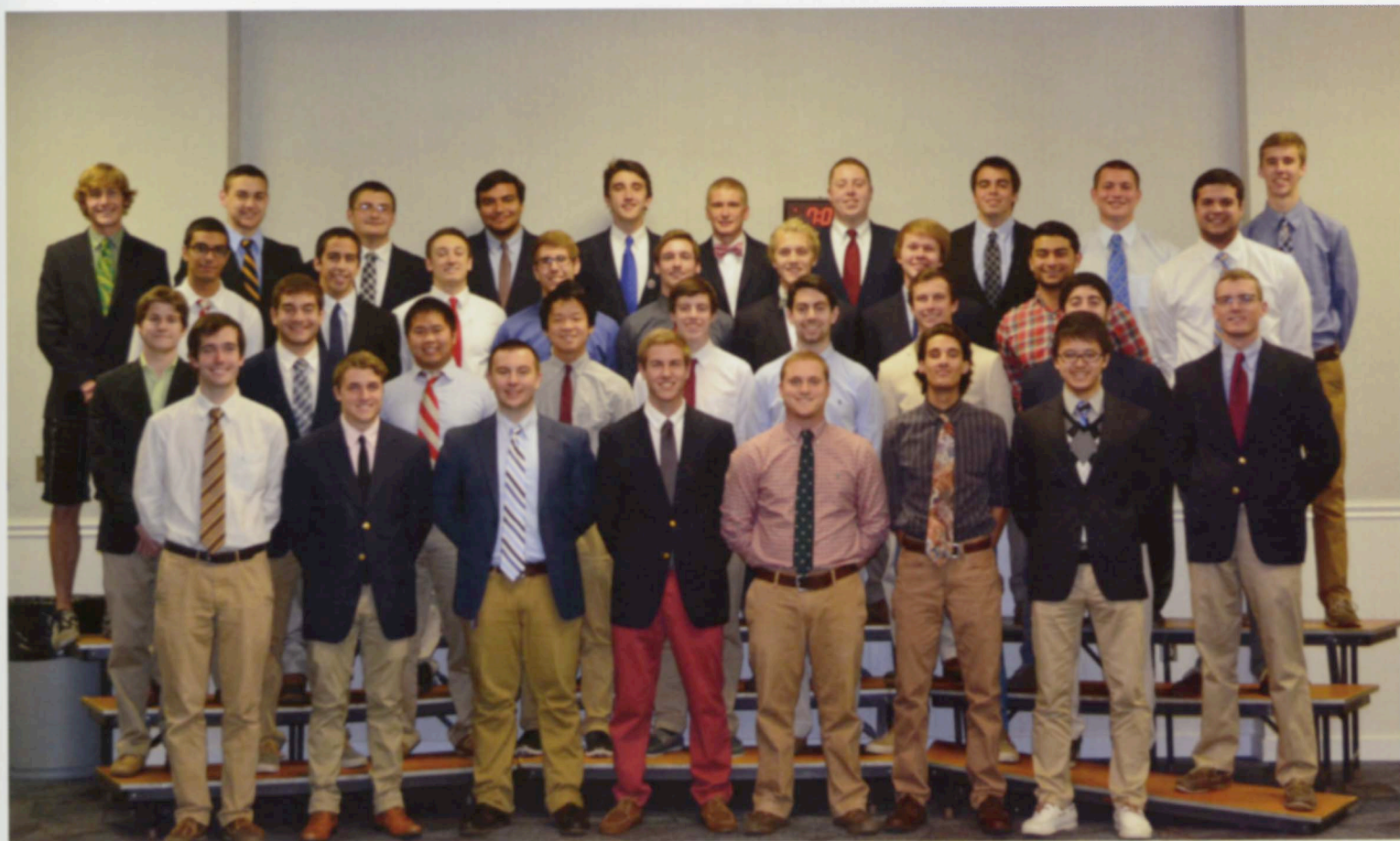
FIRST ROW Viola Bederak, Pamela Sanchez-Ycaza, Maria Carotti, Jessica Rosati, Ashley Manalel. **SECOND ROW** Van Nguyen, Ahmed Alotaibi, Duc Tam Nguyen, Rayan Bahlaiwa, Yoo Jin Lee. **THIRD ROW** Weiwei Xu, Sebastian Dillon, Masayasu Usami, Ibrahim Abu Ahmad, Shirali Shah, Anastassiya Chervinskaya.



LEFT Members of the International Student Association get ready to throw paint on each other during the Festival of Colors. The festival celebrated the coming of spring. **RIGHT** ISA members dance the night away at a charity formal. ISA encouraged all students to join the organization regardless of race or ethnicity.



TAU KAPPA EPSILON



FIRST ROW Nicholas Stopak, Travis Crane, Zachary Popovich, Brian Groener, Andrew Crane, Mauricio Cimino, Xiao Song. **SECOND ROW** William Duvall IV, Joshua Kindler, Anthony Temsupasiri, Russell Levine, Luke Brower, Bradley Longworth, Zachary Nelson, Yoav Pinto, Riley Brosnan. **THIRD ROW** Nizar Kamel, Steven Siker, Kyle MacFarlane, Nathan Wise, Justin Beacham, Jordan Anderson, Zachary Thomason, Alexander Anthony, Austin Baxter. **FOURTH ROW** Lucas Jones, David Provance, James Beavers, Kyler Wheeler, Ryan Lee, Sheldon Gagne, John Bowden IV, Trevor Simpson, Frank Bozich III, William Gadzinski.



TOP Members of Tau Kappa Epsilon stop for a picture after cleaning up a section of Boyers Road in Harrisonburg. The fraternity adopted the road in 2013. **LEFT** Tau Kappa Epsilon holds an annual cookout for children. Each year they donated the proceeds to St. Jude's Hospital.

KOREAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION



FIRST ROW Abdullah Mamun, Emily Guan, Lakayla Bonaparte, Michelle Lee. **SECOND ROW** Eumee Song, Michelle Choi, Zinnia Cantrell, Justin Lee, Trinh Le.



LEFT Members of the Korean Student Association show their appreciation for the Korean culture. The Korean Student Association participated in culture shows throughout the school year. **RIGHT** KSA members serve Korean food during a meeting. Korean cuisine was largely based around grains, vegetables and meats.



VIETNAMESE STUDENT ASSOCIATION



FIRST ROW Quynh Nguyen, Tiffany Nguyen, Vi Lam, Lakayla Bonaparte, My Tran. **SECOND ROW** Philecia Hoffer, Emily Guan, Phuong Ta, Kristine Vo, Cindy Nguyen, Sean Kelly, Christine Tran. **THIRD ROW** Lirong Chen, Tien-Lillian Nguyen, Samantha Phun, Ariel Kim, Lauren Yeung, Alyssa Ignacio, Nga Thu Nguyen, James Battle, Vivian Diep. **FOURTH ROW** Van Nguyen, Vahuy Pham, Justin Lee, Benjamin Lee, Minh Huynh, Chang Tan, Feifan Yang.



LEFT Members of Vietnamese Student Association pose during the Harvest Fest. The VSA hosted the event for the Boys and Girls Club of America and provided a happy environment for children to have fun in. **RIGHT** VSA members take a break from bowling. The outing was part of the organization's Bligs and Littles Week.

CHINESE STUDENT ASSOCIATION



FIRST ROW Philecia Hoffer, My Tran, Lakayla Bonaparte, Wengian Liu. **SECOND ROW** Lauren Yeung, Wendy Cheng, Kristine Vo, Michelle Choi, Cirung Chen. **THIRD ROW** Abdullah Mamun, Sydney Byrd, Zinnia Cantrell, Sophia Wu, Linda Zeng, Emily Guan, Feifan Yang, Vivian Diep. **FOURTH ROW** Jiangda Ou, James Battle, Anthony Hwang, Jiamin Kuang, Chang Tan, Justin Lee, Minh Huynh.



LEFT Members of the Chinese Student Association perform the Chinese lion dance. The dance was commonly performed at weddings and was thought to ward off bad luck. **RIGHT** Executive board members carry a banner to represent CSA during Multi-Culture Week. The organization worked hard to raise awareness about the Chinese culture and celebrate diversity.

INTER-CULTURAL GREEK COUNCIL



FIRST ROW Jolean Clapp, Kaitlyn Nakamura, Adriana Gabriel, Alexia Constanza, Alexis Herring, Sydney Jones, Marquia Jones, Sendy Tran. **SECOND ROW** Calvin Walker, Diamond Anderson, Morgen Nash, Jasmine Walker, Stephanie Gamble, Briona Arrington, Marissa McDonald. **THIRD ROW** Anthony Sutton, Javionte Johnson, Tevonte Grant, Shenika Marable, Abimbola Akinduro, Sydney Dillard, Tenea Lowery.



LEFT The Inter-cultural Greek Council poses during a meeting. The organization sought to enhance student development through celebrating diversity within Greek lettered organizations. **RIGHT** ICGC members enjoy each other's company. The organization educated the student body about being in a multi-cultural fraternity or sorority.

ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY INC.



FIRST ROW Jasmine Walker, Alexis Johnson-Gresham, Shenika Marable, Kiea Dixon, Stephanie Gamble.



Members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. pose in front of their stand during the university's academic open house. The students presented the sorority to high school students interested in attending the university.

A NURSING STUDENT ASSOCIATION



LEFT Members of the Nursing Student Association pose at Cici's Pizza during a fundraising night. The organization held community service events and local mentorship programs. **RIGHT** Members pose during a senior prom. The prom was held for senior citizens in Harrisonburg.

ALPHA KAPPA DELTA PHI SORORITY INC.



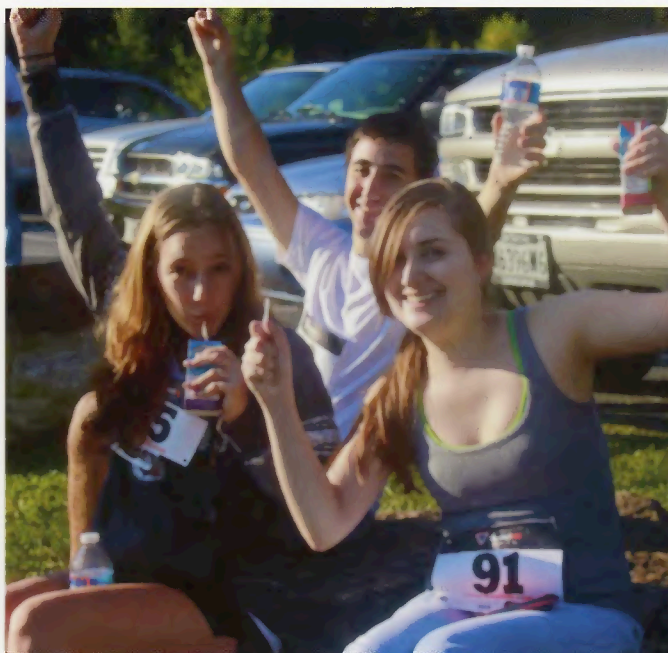
FIRST ROW Kelsey Jones, Victoria Nguyen, Jolean Clapp. **SECOND ROW** Sendy Tran, Tenzin Yeshe, Natalie Kwon, Ingrid Caranzo, Avian Tu.

“timeless
FRIENDSHIP
through
SISTERHOOD,”

CHINESE STUDENT AND SCHOLARSHIP ENACTUS



FIRST ROW Nichole Barnes, Olivia Palfi, Christian Embrey. **SECOND ROW** Kyle Johnson, Alexander Doye, Jesse Thomas.



LEFT Enactus displays trophies from the Massanutten 5K. The 5K was held to benefit Mercy House. **RIGHT** Junior Holly Cicero and seniors Elise Werner and David Aber take a break after running the Massanutten 5K. Other members of Enactus volunteered during the event.

PHI EPSILON KAPPA



FIRST ROW Sean Ennis, Lynsey Palmer, Tiffany Cavallucci, Devin Joseph, Hayley Steele, Jamie Vest. **SECOND ROW** Rachel Poutre, Abigail Palmerton, Kevin Decker, Renee Stanford, Ashley Dintaman, Rachel Joyce. **THIRD ROW** Laura Blades, Brian DeHart, Brian Dawson, Jeremy Via, Brandon Booth, Emery Shekiro.



LEFT Members of Phi Epsilon Kappa rest during a retreat trip. While there, they worked to complete a high ropes course. **RIGHT** A group of members work together on a trust activity during a retreat. The retreats focused on team building and communication.

CHINESE STUDENT AND SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION



FIRST ROW Jessica Chu, Siyun Sun, Vivian Chen, Alice Tsai, Suiru Lei, Yunpeng Zhang, Weiwei Xu. **SECOND ROW** Xicheng Huang, Yujing Wang, Xue Yang, Summer Taibuer, Yanyi Zu, Dora Hsieh, Lirong Chen, Wenqian Liu, David Hsieh.



LEFT A member of the Chinese Student and Scholars Association grills for the rest of the organization. The organization gathered to celebrate the Lantern Festival. **RIGHT** Club members celebrate Halloween with a potluck. They also performed karaoke using YouTube to search for music and lyrics.

PHI CHI THETA PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS FRATERNITY



FIRST ROW Kaitlyn Paonessa, Ashley Kalavritinos, Abigail Pasztor, Samantha Solak, Rachel Covas, Hayley Necessary, Tayler Van Arsdale, Riley Lopez. **SECOND ROW** Michael Smith, Julie Wigand, Patrick Foster, Eun Kim Song, Justin Widmann, Tae Hoon Choi, Jason Welsford, Shannon Mulqueen, Victoria Atkins. **THIRD ROW** Zachary Fabian, Brent Richbourg, Shane Smith, Stephanie Papageorgis, Pratik Mody, Robert Rodriguez, Quincy Nguyen.



LEFT Members of Phi Chi Theta Professional Business Fraternity man the tables at a 5K event. The fraternity donated the money from the 5K to local charities.

RIGHT A member of Phi Chi Theta works the grill during an event. Phi Chi Theta participated in many events to benefit the community.



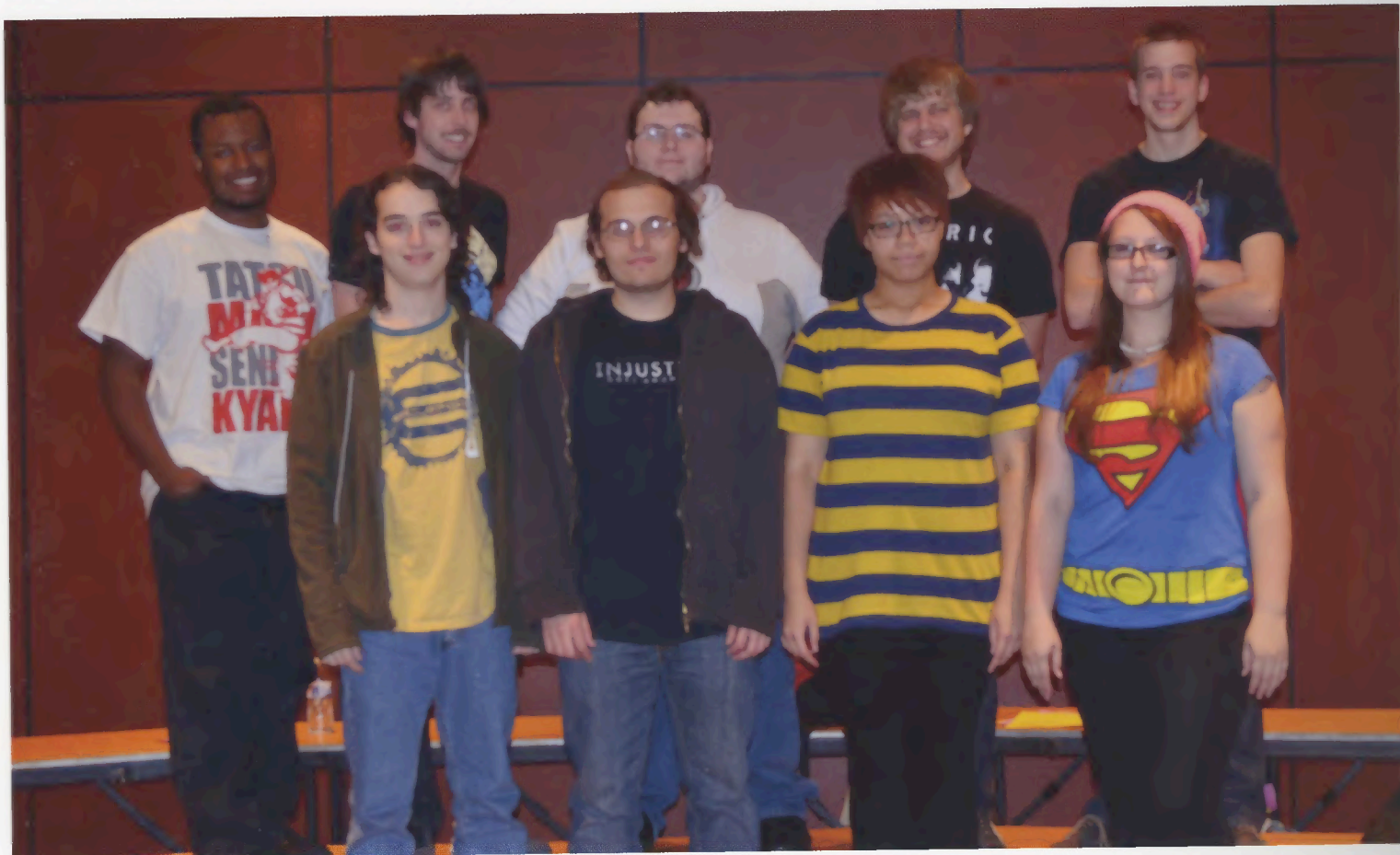
STUDENT SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY GUILD



FIRST ROW Zachary Zilinsleas, Taylor Berrena, Shelby Creeley, Anatash Werne, Brandon Schimmel, Dalton Gibbs, Daniel Piatkowski, Jeremy Heilman. **SECOND ROW** Vincent Distephano, David Smith, Michael Jesschke, James Waugh, Jeffrey Riddle Jr., Lukas Osmer, Alexander Anderson, Christopher Slattery.

“promotes
SCI-FI and
FANTASY
in all of its forms”

ROUND 1- JMU FIGHTING GAMES CLUB



FIRST ROW Timothy Stansell-Gamm, Daniel Piatkowski, Amber Gustave, Felicia Singson. **SECOND ROW** Tony Jenkins, Joshua Wilson, Christopher Slattery, Scott Johnson, Trevor Morgan.



Members of Round 1 - JMU Fighting Games Club compete during a Super Smash Brothers Tournament. The organization held the event in order to unite students who enjoyed gaming and to provide an environment for them to do so.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



FIRST ROW Julie Wigand, Ana Fitzpatrick, Jiraporn Rojural, Arlen Corena, Taylor Vollman, Sara Etemad-Moghadam, Michael Jacob, Sara Wigglesworth. **SECOND ROW** Casey Ragan, Fahduma Majid, Alison Huffman, Cathleen Carlson, Katrina Hatahet, Vanina Waingortin, Courtney Clemmons, Adam Miner, Megan McConnell, Amberlee Taylor, Megan Gibbons, Joshua Humphries. **THIRD ROW** Alexandra Deal, Danielle Lewandowski, Kyle Folbrecht, Kiersten Schierenbeck, Catherine Donnelly, Alexandra Guendert, David Scala, Aaron Brown, John Riley, Robert Smith, Ella Trinkle. **FOURTH ROW** Zachary Healy, John Allen, Adnan Al-Karagholi, Ethan Best, Daniel Brezinsky, Joseph Demski, Griffith Ridgway, Ryan Windels, Madison Cairns, Nicholas Maggio, Andrew Haveles, Micah Barbour, Matthew Mueller, Bryan Jacobs, Jeffrey Blevins. **FIFTH ROW** Robert Copper, Joshua Gordon, Vanessa Burshnic, Alicia Pettis, Rachel Fisher, Julie Hirschhorn, Lauren Holder, Courtney Herb, Kaitlin Thomas, Kaicee Klock, Meredith Parker, Johanna Madero, Estelle Mitchell, Rebecca Lamb, Sravanti Chaganti, Joseph Jedlicka.



LEFT The Student Government Association members meet to discuss plans for the university. The group brainstormed ideas concerning academics and student life. **RIGHT** Two members of SGA hold up a sign advertising the senior class tailgate. SGA served food, such as hot dogs and burgers, to seniors.

SOCIETY OF ENTREPRENEURS



FIRST ROW Laura Dobbs, Eric Walisko, Benjamin Stout, Hyler Fortier. **SECOND ROW** John O'Neill, Samuel Auch, Genevieve D'Antonio, Cameron Young, Jason Welsford, Griffin Harrington. **THIRD ROW** Christopher Ashley, Andrew Cooper, Andrew Carlone, Michael Chawaga, Dylan Katcher, Andrew Mortillo.



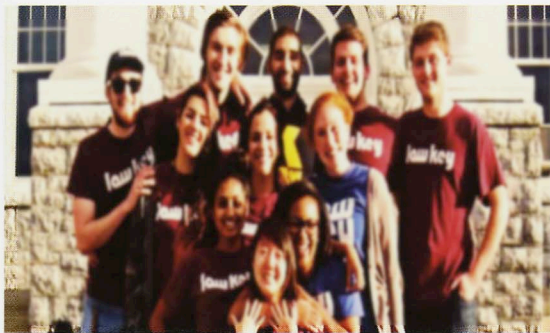
TOP The Society of Entrepreneurs holds a meeting. These students were all dedicated to a bright future in business. **RIGHT** Members of the Society of Entrepreneurs explore Silicon Valley during a trip. While there, they learned valuable skills and insight by visiting companies such as Facebook and Twitter.



LOW KEY



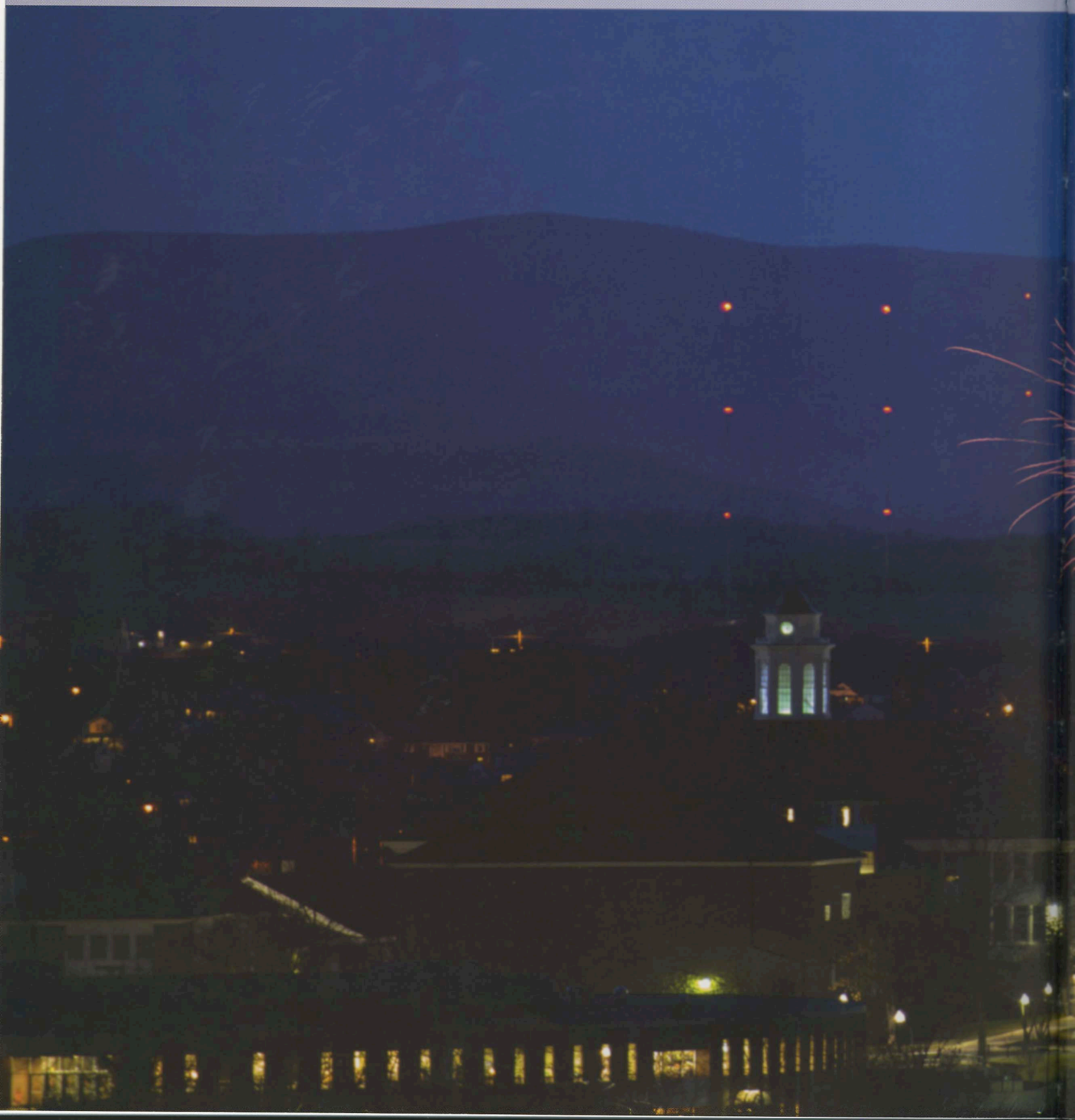
FIRST ROW Jonathan Martin, Cynthia Kim, Mohammad Qarghah, Jasraj Bhamrah, Claire Morris, Dianté Ryals, Peter Weeks, Samuel St. Ours, Dean Maldonato, Paulina Drucker.

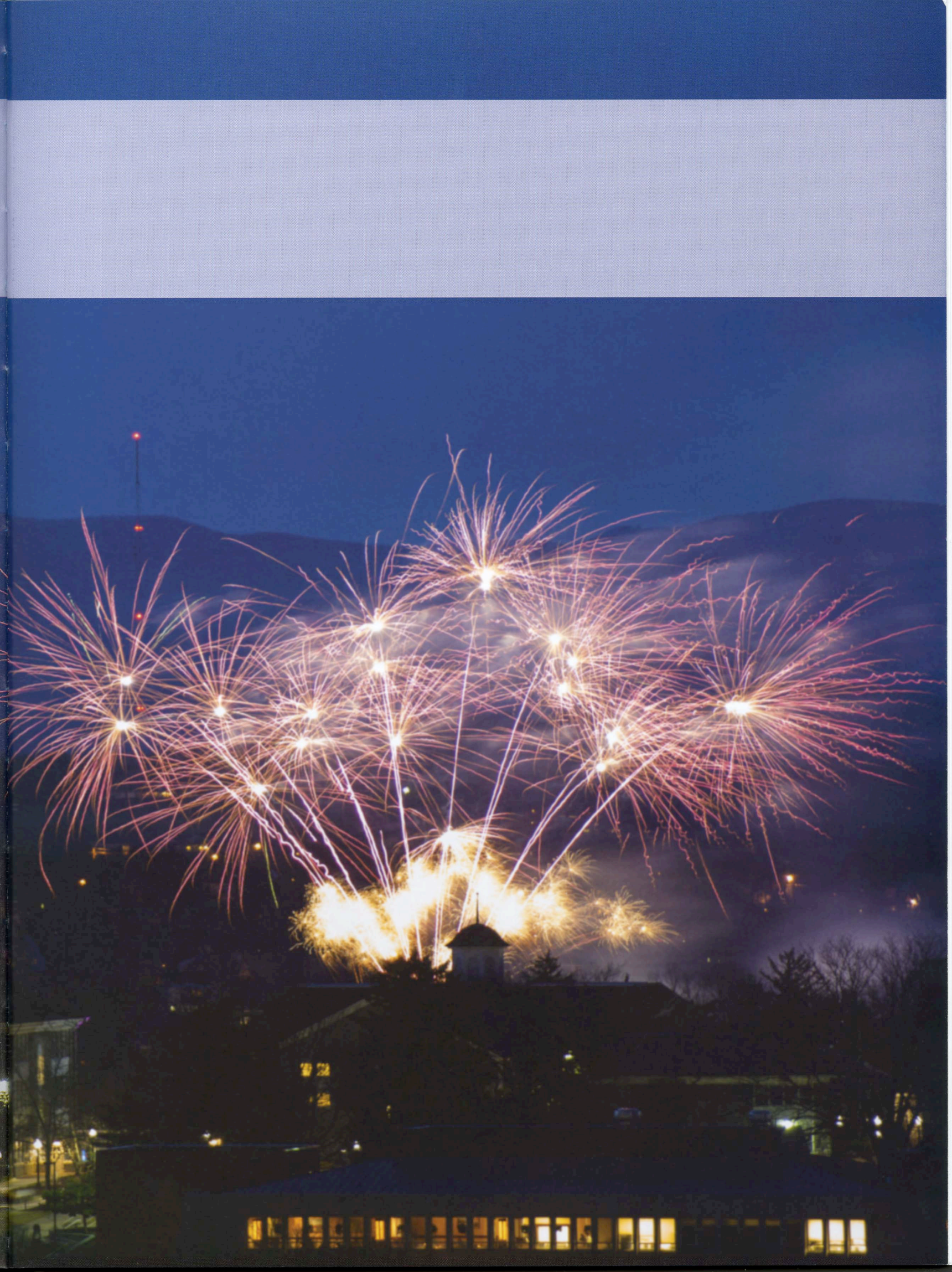


LEFT The members of Low Key pose in front of Wilson Hall. Low Key performed in various places around campus all year. **RIGHT** Low Key hangs out at an impromptu meeting. The members all became friends after spending so much time together.



closing





WRITERS



FIRST ROW Paige Lobuts, Courtney Ambrose, Dominique Escalera.

BLUESTONE BABES



FIRST ROW Elizabeth Wertz, Paige Lobuts, Abigail Walter, Haley Lambert. **SECOND ROW** Julie Hirschhorn, Michelle Criqui, Danielle Lerer, George Agrios, Claire Fogarty, Colleen Lentile, Mary Pitts.

DESIGNERS



FIRST ROW Abigail Walter, Alison Miles, Megan Rzepka, Lauren Stearns.

not pictured

Coryn Cocozza, writer
Timothy Mitchell, writer
Taylor Vollman, writer
Angela Williams, writer
Gregory Wilson, writer
Christina Reilly, photographer
Madeline Williams, photographer
Alison Miles, designer
Alexandra Roadley, designer
Megan Rzepka, designer
Laura Svites, designer
Hannah Hayes, marketing director

EDITORIAL BOARD



FIRST ROW Colleen Lentile, Elizabeth Wertz, Haley Lambert, Roscoe, Rebecca Sullivan, Claire Fogarty.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Haley Lambert

I've tried writing this letter seven different times and trashed seven different drafts because I just can't think of a way to adequately thank everyone involved in putting this book together. But here goes nothing.

Beth, thank you for being my best friend, live-in partner in crime and Bobbsey Twin for life! You're a rock-solid editor and writer and your design skills aren't too shabby either :) Also, thanks for letting us use you and Juan as models for what will go down in history as the most adorable picture in a yearbook, ever. Oh, and just for old time's sake: Roadhouse!

Colleen, thank you for knowing just about everyone at this university. Kidding! We wouldn't have made it through deadline weekends without your witty one-liners. Also thanks for protecting us from the strange delivery men that somehow managed to make it into Roop at one a.m. I better see you after graduation to do stuff...and thangs!

Claire, thank you for making me crack up at two a.m. without fail. I'm pretty sure most of the quotes in the office come from you! Also, thanks for always letting

us steal your Ethernet cable even though it was usually at the most inopportune moment ever. But mostly thanks for being an awesome editor, writing amazing stories and serenading us with Petey every deadline weekend.

Becky, this book would not exist without you. Literally. From designing pages to being the calm in the center of an otherwise insane Editorial Board storm, you've been the glue holding everything together. Also, can we talk about the fact that you're probably (definitely) the coolest person on the Editorial Board? If I don't see your photos in magazines and on billboards in the future, the world is a messed up place and I don't want to be a part of it anymore.

Hannah, you're the marketing queen. That's all there is to it! Thanks for meeting with me obnoxiously early in the morning in the equally obnoxious yellow walls of Roop G6 to talk tactics. Your innovative ideas and inner strength are beyond admirable and I'm glad we were able to work together this year.

They say college is when you meet the friends you'll have for the rest of your life. I think I finally have.

Thank you all for going on this crazy adventure with me. Love you!

To my lovely staff, sometimes you scared me but most of the time you amazed me. You are all exceptionally talented and I am proud to have worked with you. Without each of your hard work and determination, we would only have empty pages. Thank you for making this book a possibility.

Mom and Dad, thank you for being supportive of my crazy journalism dreams. A lot of people say it, but I really do have the best and most loving parents in the world.

Andrew, thank you for always being there to talk me through some of the most stressful moments of this job and for being the best friend and boyfriend a girl could ever hope to have.

Roscoe, your adorable, cute and cuddly-ness kept me sane over deadline weekends. Thanks for being my cuddle buddy and the best guard dog ever (even if you were probably a little overzealous most of the time).

To the readers, thank you for picking up this book. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I have enjoyed creating it.



MANAGING EDITOR

Claire Fogarty

Part of me wishes someone had recorded all the conversations that took place in Roop G6 on deadline weekends, but a larger part of me knows none of us would have friends if those conversations were ever leaked. I think those long, hard weekends are really what defined our amazing Editorial Board and staff members. From caffeine-frenzied freak outs, to fits of laughter, to finishing each other's sentences when we were trying to think of headlines and subheads, those are the moments I will remember most about this year's book.

And now for the thanks. Mom and Dad, thank you for everything you've done for me. Without your continuous love and support I honestly don't know who I would be. I also want to thank my sisters Olivia and Chandler, my brother Baxter, my grandfather, my best friends from home and my JMU family and friends (you know who you are) for always inspiring me and cheering me on when I needed it the most.

And finally, I want to thank Haley, Beth, Colleen, Becky and Hannah. I love you guys. No one else really understands how fun, stressful and amazing it was to create this yearbook. I can't believe how close we all got this year, but I'm so glad we did.

This year has been one I will never forget. I hope everyone enjoys the book!

P.S. Hole in one.



MANAGING EDITOR

Elizabeth Wertz

Is anyone surprised that I'm watching "Beauty and the Beast" while I write this? I know no one on the Bluestone Editorial Board with me is surprised.

I've become best friends with the people who have spent so much time with me in this room with awful, ugly mustard-colored walls. For instance, at this very moment, I'm snapchatting Claire ugly faces, Facebook-messaging Haley (even though she literally lives down the hall from me) and commenting on a status back and forth with Colleen. This is my life now, and I wouldn't have it any other way.

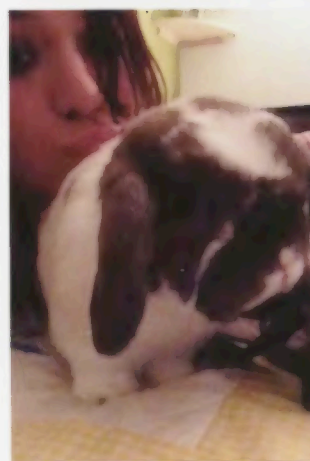
Call me weird, but I slightly looked forward to deadline weekends. Haley, Claire, Colleen, Becky and Hannah were all so much fun to hang out with. I can't think of a better way to spend all day Friday and Saturday than with some of the best people I know and great food. It was always fun shouting out headline ideas (I'm looking at you, Colleen), deciding whether a phrase is AP Style or not and trying desperately to get pictures.

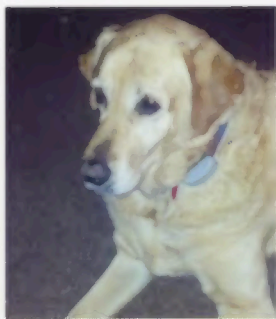
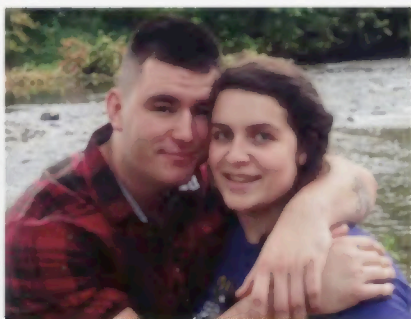
It's seriously been a great year with you guys. There are a few people I'd like to thank for helping me make this

year and my time at the Bluestone as amazing as it has been.

Thank you to Haley, for being my best friend for about seven years now, and letting me be a part of this process. To Becky, because without you, I think the rest of us would have cried ourselves to sleep every night this year because no one can design like you can. To Colleen, for teaching us the difference between burros and burritos, and also because you magically know everybody on campus. To Claire, because I love you and your water bottle that turns you into a dolphin. To my boyfriend Juan, for bringing me coffee on deadline weekend and for finishing my sandwiches. To my mom, just because I like you. To Destiny's Child, because singing along to "Say My Name" made deadline weekend a lot more interesting.

And thank God for the fact that no one but Bluestone people can get into our office, because if anyone else read our quote board without knowing the context, I'm pretty sure we'd be ostracized. Deadline weekends were rough.





COPY EDITOR Colleen Lentile

10 Things I Hate About Yearbook: An Ode to the Bluestone

1. I hate the yellow-carpeted walls.

For those of you who don't know, the walls of the Bluestone office are covered in yellow carpet. And when I say "yellow," I don't mean ray of sunshine yellow, I mean ugly, vomit-colored yellow. Yeah, it's lovely.

2. I hate that we don't use the oxford comma.

I obviously prefer the oxford comma, but since AP Style doesn't use it anymore, neither can we. And so many of our writers are used to using it as well, so every time I see an oxford comma in copy, I am in physical pain when I have to take it out.

3. I hate spending 25+ hours in Roop G6 on deadline weekends.

Once you have been staring at yellow walls for 25 or more hours believe me, no matter how much you love your Editorial Board friends, you want to leave. And it's so fun walking down the Quad at two a.m., half scared for your life, and getting looked at funny by party-goers who see your attire and judge you to be a complete nerd who's spent their Saturday in the library.

4. I hate "Org Photo Week."

"Org Photo Weeks" are the weeks where the staff has to supervise the organizations that chose to get group photos taken. It's pretty difficult to get organizations quiet and smiling, but the worst thing is deciphering student's handwriting. I want everyone to have their name spelled correctly, but it's really hard when "Adam" looks like "Apple." Just saying.

5. I hate when deadline weekends come around and we have no photos for a particular story.

One story always slips through the cracks of our brains and ends up photo-less, which leads me to six.

6. I hate awkward late night phone calls with people who can potentially give us photos.

Us: Hi, I'm from the JMU Yearbook and I was wondering if you have photos for ____.

Them: Yeah, sure. I have a bunch. I could e-mail them to you if that's okay. When do you need them by?

Us: Uh...tonight.

Them: Okay. Let me see what I can do.

Sometimes they give us photos. Sometimes they don't. That's the way it goes.

7. I hate reading the same stories over and over and over again.

So, every deadline we have to read and revise each story at least 10 times. Though the stories are interesting, they lose their appeal when you read them more than a few times.

8. I hate when Ron, Jeremy, and Betty don't work when they are supposed to.

Ron, Jeremy and Betty are the names of the printers in the Bluestone office. On any given deadline weekend, we can print off close to 50+ copies of spreads. And sometimes the printers don't want to work causing headaches and cursing.

9. I hate when there are orphans and widows in our copy.

I don't hate children without parents and wives without husbands. Orphans are when there is one word on a line of text and widows are when there is one word on a line of text and it is at the top of a block of text. We have to change the tracking in the copy so that there is more than one word on a line. It happens and it's annoying.

10. And lastly, to quote Kat Stratford from the film "10 Things I Hate About You": "But mostly, I hate the way I don't hate you. Not even close, not even a little bit, not even at all."

Though I have spent the last 600 or so words complaining about yearbook, I have loved every second I have spent on the Editorial Board of the Bluestone. I have met so many amazing people at JMU and have learned so much about the community around me. But, I would not have had so much fun if it weren't for the five girls whom I spent so much time with.

Haley, we would all have failed without you; you were an impeccable leader. And I pity the person that doubts you. Beth, you are a passionate individual who can do anything you set your mind to. I will forever remember you as the perfect friend.

Claire, every time I thought I couldn't read any more copy, you said something funny that lifted my spirits. You are truly one of the most genuine and sweet people I have ever met. Becky, the diamond in the rough and our design savior; what would we do without you. I am sure you will be a famous photographer/designer one day and rock at it. Don't forget me when you're a star.

And, Hannah, I envy your strength and confidence. You will change the world one day, girl.

Haley, Beth, Claire, Becky and Hannah, you are all wonderful, beautiful human beings. Thank you for putting up with me and going on this adventure with me.

DESIGN EDITOR Rebecca Sullivan

What a year! I was part of yearbook in high school, and since my freshman year at JMU I always thought about joining the Bluestone. I finally jumped back into the yearbook world senior year and all I can say is that I regret not joining sooner.

I was welcomed into the Bluestone family with open arms, and wish I could have just one more year working with the fabulous girls on the Editorial Board.

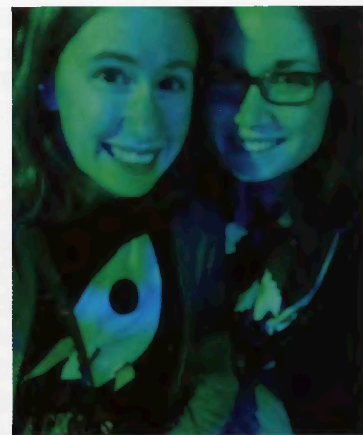
Haley, Claire, Beth, Colleen and Hannah: as much as you may think I secretly think you're all insane, it's the complete opposite. I would not have made it through the stressful, late nights locked in the basement of Roop Hall if it weren't for the 90's girl group Pandora playlists and the ridiculous things we'd say after being in the yellow-walled dungeon for too long. Honestly, I probably would have gone crazy if it weren't for the comedic relief you provided during deadline weekends.

On a more serious note: the five of you are incredible and I admire how passionate all of you are about your work. You are all so talented and will go so far in life!

Finally, huge thanks to my parents for supporting me in everything I do; my sisters for being my two best friends; and Jennifer, Dominique, Lauren and all of my friends for being my biggest cheerleaders during this crazy year.

Here we are: our last deadline weekend. I'm sitting here writing this at 11 p.m. on a Friday, and yet I couldn't imagine a better way to spend my weekend. It sounds cliché, but I'm still going to say it: joining the Bluestone was one of the best decisions I've made since coming to JMU. Thank you girls for being a part of my best year yet.

P.S. Dudley and Jude, thanks for nothing. :)



INDEX

A

Abeel, Jeremy.....	270
Abt, Kelly.....	208
Adalsteinsson, Bjarki.....	206, 207
Adam, David.....	238
Adcock, Megan.....	238
Adesanya-Olaaley, Oluwatosin.....	280
Adkins, Claire.....	217
Adrienne le Vatte.....	177
Agrios, George.....	287
Agtuca, Michelle.....	238
Ahearn, Camille.....	226
Ahir, Monica.....	154
Ahmad, Ibrahim Abu.....	288
Akinduro, Abimbola.....	293
Al-Karagholi, Adnan.....	303
Albanese, Amanda.....	254
Albert, Sadie.....	276
Alexander, Adrienne.....	172
Alexander, Carly.....	216, 217
Alexander, Madison.....	285
Alger, John.....	273
Alger, Jonathan R.....	25, 65
Allaband, Dana.....	177
Allen, John.....	303
Allen, Kylie.....	254
Almjeld, Jennifer.....	52, 53
Alotaibi, Ahmed.....	288
Altonji, Lauren.....	254
Ambrose, Courtney.....	308
Ames, Bethany.....	60
Anderson, Alexander.....	301
Anderson, Ashanti.....	196
Anderson, Diamond.....	293
Anderson, Jordan.....	289
Andre, Jessica.....	254
Andrews, Colleen.....	177
Andriescu, Ruxandra.....	166, 270
Angel, Betsy.....	174
Anonas, Aileen.....	286

Antetomaso, Christie.....	248
Anthony, Alexander.....	289
Apicella, Jarrett.....	226
Appleton, Toby.....	206
Armour, Evan.....	238
Arrington, Briona.....	293
Arsdale, Tayler Van.....	300
Asan, Leslie.....	254
Asbell, Jennifer.....	280
Ashby, Blair.....	276
Asher, Lauren.....	196
Ashley, Christopher.....	304
Ashworth, Bethany.....	177
Atkins, Victoria.....	300
Atlee, Timothy.....	254
Attanasio, Alyssa.....	254
Attayan, Navid.....	29
Attilis, Amy.....	226
Auch, Samuel.....	304

B

Bahlaiwa, Rayan.....	288
Bahou, Gregory.....	280
Baier, Cassie.....	270
Bailey, Taylor.....	177
Baird, Daniella.....	196
Ballard, Taylor.....	248
Balzo, Julianne.....	196
Barber, Michele.....	270
Barbour, Kaitlyn.....	208
Barbour, Micah.....	303
Barch, Jenessa.....	248
Barden, Jonathan.....	206
Barger, Jessica.....	226
Barnes, Nichole.....	297
Barnes, Thomas.....	238
Barnett, Rachel.....	205
Bastidas, Adam.....	206

Battle, James.....	286, 291, 292
Baxter, Austin.....	289
Beacham, Justin.....	289
Beavers, James.....	289
Becker, Rosalie.....	177
Beckley, Kara.....	238
Beckley, Kristen.....	254
Bederak, Viola.....	288
Beightol, Conner.....	189
BerdnikWoff, Alexander.....	165
Berg, Hannah.....	196
Bergin, Anna.....	221
Bernal, Leidy Arias.....	180
Berrena, Taylor.....	301
Berry, Rachel.....	285
Bertolino, Kerianne.....	266
Bessick, Taylor.....	212
Best, Ethan.....	303
Bhamrah, Jasraj.....	305
Bieszczad, Sarah.....	177
Birdsong, Michael.....	194, 195
Birkbeck, Kaitlin.....	90
Bjorkheim, Markus.....	206
Black, Carter.....	46
Blades, Laura.....	254, 298
Blanchfield-Felice, Anthony.....	196
Blanco, Monica.....	238
Blevins, Jeffrey.....	303
Blot, Danielle.....	226
Blunt, Miles.....	276
Bologna, Nicole.....	210
Bonaparte, Lakayla.....	290, 291, 292
Bond, Jessicac.....	147
Bonforte, Glenn.....	90
Booth, Brandon.....	298
Boothe, Stefanee.....	254
Borras, Nina.....	254
Bortell, Allison.....	208, 214
Bosek, Lindsay.....	217
Bowen, Jessica.....	254
Bradshaw, Emily.....	167
Bradshaw, Stanford.....	168
Brady, Matthew.....	212, 213
Bramhall, Rachel.....	285
Branth, Maxi.....	165
Branth, Maximilian.....	165
Braun, Morgan.....	200
Braun-McLeod, Sydney.....	208
Brecher, Andrew.....	238

Brendli, Katherine.....	180
Brendli, Katie.....	172
Brennan, Molly.....	255
Brewer, Shabril.....	193
Brezinsky, Daniel.....	303
Brill, Elora.....	238
Briones, Elizabeth.....	189
Brito, Elizabeth.....	248
Brosnan, Riley.....	289
Brower, Luke.....	289
Brown, Aaron.....	303
Brown, Conner.....	168
Brown, Daniel.....	194
Brown, Lillian.....	180
Brown, Lillie.....	172
Brown, Madysen.....	208
Brown, Michael.....	238
Brusky, Taylor.....	92
Bruyne, Robin De.....	177
Bryant, Kathleen.....	226
Brylawski, Brooke.....	248
Buadum, Derrick.....	238
Bucher, Stephanie.....	196
Budzinski, Lauren.....	208
Buitrago, Alejandra.....	18, 105, 147
Bunker, Rebecca.....	226
Bunner, Allison.....	208
Burgess, Brandi.....	238
Burgess, Gary.....	226
Burkholder, Kirby.....	214
Burns, Matthew.....	239
Burshnic, Vanessa.....	303
Butler, Brent.....	284
Butler, Jasmine.....	208
Buxton, Margaret.....	208
Byrd, Morgan.....	255
Byrd, Sydney.....	226, 292

C

Cabarkapa, Dimitrije.....	212
Cagnoli, Marisa.....	63
Cairns, Madison.....	303
Calhoon, Carly.....	239
Campbell, Courtney.....	255
Cantrell, Zinnia.....	290, 292
Caranzo, Ingrid.....	296
Cardelia, Christopher.....	61
Carlone, Andrew.....	304
Carlson, Cathleen.....	303
Carlson, Zachary.....	142
Carney, Stephanie.....	221, 276
Carotti, Maria.....	288
Carper, Stephanie.....	196
Carranza, Frederick.....	280
Carrion, Vanessa.....	226
Carroll, Chad.....	168
Carroll, Tyler.....	168
Carson, Cynthia.....	184
Carter-Zimmer, Nicole.....	239
Casadonte, Danielle.....	226
Casey, Sarah.....	136, 137, 276
Cassella, Amanda.....	226
Cassella, Joseph.....	55
Castle, Adam.....	239
Cavalieri, Lauren.....	239
Cavallucci, Tiffany.....	298
Chaganti, Sravanti.....	303
Chakalos, Spyridon.....	210
Chamberlin, Matthew.....	227
Chang, Isabel.....	208
Chawaga, Michael.....	304
Chelmowski, Saskia.....	177
Chen, Cirung.....	292
Chen, Danling.....	280
Chen, Lirong.....	291, 299
Chen, Nannan.....	280
Chen, Vivian.....	299
Chenault, Charles.....	86
Cheng, Wendy.....	292
Chervinskaya, Anastassiya.....	288
Chessman, Dana.....	239
Choi, Michelle.....	290, 292
Choi, Tae Hoon.....	300
Chu, Jessica.....	299
Chun, Eunice.....	A
Chung, Esther.....	248
Ciccone, Amy.....	239
Cimino, Mauricio.....	289
Clapp, Jolean.....	293, 296
Clark, Ashley.....	217
Clark, Lauren.....	239
Clarke, Nicole.....	227

Clarke, Stephanie.....	217
Clavin, Catherine.....	208
Clayton, Cassidy.....	208, 209
Cleary, Alexis.....	239
Clemmer, Sara.....	186
Clemmons, Courtney.....	303
Cocozza, Cory.....	309
Cogar, Justin.....	227
Cohen, Brandon.....	168
Cole, Emily.....	172, 180
Cole, Ryan.....	191
Coles, Qadirah.....	255
Coley, Lemende'.....	284
Colman, Nora.....	255
Colmon, Miles.....	239
Colston, Benjamin.....	255
Comber, Anne.....	239
Conley, Ciara.....	208
Connolly, Shannon.....	196
Conover, Marianne.....	218
Constanza, Alexia.....	293
Cooke, Caroline.....	77
Cooke, Charles.....	212, 213
Cooper, Andrew.....	304
Cooper, Brandi.....	248
Copper, Robert.....	227, 303
Corena, Arlen.....	303
Corrigan, Logan.....	168
Courter, Katherine.....	208
Covas, Rachel.....	300
Cox, Meghan.....	208
Crane, Andrew.....	289
Crane, Travis.....	289
Crawford, Jacqueline.....	217
Crawshaw, Alice.....	198
Creeley, Shelby.....	74, 301
Crewe, Morgan.....	172
Criqui, Michelle.....	280, 287, 309
Croasdale, Alan.....	205
Cronin, Kellyann.....	227
Crooks, Zoe.....	276
Crowe, Corey.....	255
Crowley, Jessica.....	280
Crushes, JMU.....	108
Cundiff, Trent.....	168, 169
Cunningham, Lindsay.....	270
Currin, Jessica.....	177
Curwin, Ali.....	174
Cusumano, Patrick.....	185
Cutter, Zachary.....	211
Czulada, Camilla.....	217

D

D'Angelo, Amanda.....	196
Daddio, Michael.....	239
Dailey, Justin.....	255
Dalembert, Yohanny.....	212
Daorai, Kaitlyn.....	189
Darone, Janie.....	276
Davis, Alicia.....	280
Dawson, Brian.....	298
Deacon, Brittany.....	116
Deal, Alexandra.....	303
Deane, Michael.....	212
deBrun, Guy.....	133
Debusk, Laura.....	276
Decker, Kevin.....	298
DeFrancisco, Samantha.....	255
DeHart, Brian.....	298
Delaney, Sarah.....	189
DeCoco, Daniel.....	90
Delong, Matthew.....	255
Delta, Delta Tau.....	78
Demski, Joseph.....	303
Denham, Kelly.....	248
DePriest, Reba.....	208
Determan, Lauren.....	248
DeWeever, Kaitlin.....	196
Dhillon, Meredith.....	270
Dhingra, Shayla.....	107
Diep, Vivian.....	286, 291, 292
DiGregorio, Thomas.....	266
Digregorio, Thomas.....	266
Dill, Gabriella.....	255
Dillard, Sydney.....	255, 293
Dillon, Sebastian.....	288
DiMattina, Angela.....	285, 289
Dintaman, Ashley.....	298
Diruggiero, Lauren.....	227
Distephano, Vincent.....	301
Dixon, Kacie.....	248
Dixon, Kiea.....	294
Dobbs, Laura.....	172, 180, 304
Dobson, Sarah.....	227
Dohner, Natalie.....	256
Dombroski, Laura.....	227
Donnelly, Catherine.....	303
Donovan, Brian.....	211
Dorado, Paulo.....	286
Douglass, Shannon.....	285
Dove, Loren.....	270
Dow, Caitlin.....	196
Dowell, Samuel.....	212
Downing, Erika.....	196
Doye, Alexander.....	297
Drew, Bradley.....	50, 51

Drew, Connor.....	50, 51, 70
Drucker, Paulina.....	305
Dubay, Shannon.....	217, 270
Dukes, Marching Royal.....	117
Dukoff, Spencer.....	227
Duncan, Abby.....	172
Dunnavan, Edwin.....	270
Durbin, Tyler.....	206
Durso, Allison.....	184
Dutter, Melissa.....	227
Duvall, William.....	240, 289
Duvall-Early, Jacob.....	227
Dyer, Maci.....	248
D'Antonio, Genevieve.....	304

E

Edmondson, Kimberly.....	248
Edsall, Kacy.....	217
Edwards, Chelsea.....	90
Ehrenpreis, David.....	86
Ely, Cameron.....	240
Embrey, Christian.....	297
Ennis, Sean.....	298
Erwin, Kristina.....	227
Escalera, Dominique.....	308
Estera, Marissa.....	19, 133
Etemad-Moghadam, Sara.....	303
Evangelista, Francesca.....	286
Evans, Christie.....	249
Evans, Michael.....	168

F

Fabian, Zachary.....	300
Fagan, Danielle.....	276
Fantano, Gerard.....	270
Farmer, Haley.....	270
Farris, Holly.....	228
Farris, Holly Caitlin.....	285
Federinko, Alexander.....	199, 228
Feehan, Kevin.....	168
Fenton, Ashley.....	256
Fergus, Riley.....	256
Field, Erica.....	208
Filipczyk, Cristin.....	228
Finley, Stephanie.....	174
Firebaugh, Benjamin.....	191
Fisher, Rachel.....	16, 303
Fisher, Sydney.....	270
Fitzpatrick, Ana.....	303
Fleming, Benjamin.....	178
Flickinger, Jenna.....	172, 180, 181
Flocco, Kathryn.....	228
Flora, William.....	240
Fogarty, Claire.....	228, 287, 310, 312
Folbrecht, Kyle.....	240, 303
Forbes, De'Ana.....	172
Ford, Jailyn.....	208
Forrest, Ellen.....	208
Fortier, Hyler.....	43, 304
Fortuna, Katelyn.....	256
Foster, Patrick.....	300
Fouhy, Thomas.....	206, 207
Foust, Christian.....	206
Fox, Lisa.....	39
Fox, Marybeth.....	A
Frame, Jonathan.....	228
Frary, Jordan.....	127
Frick, Jena.....	55
Fries, Mark.....	129
Frye, Alexis.....	285
Frye, Brittany.....	118
Fulbrook, Emily.....	198
Furbank, Lani.....	228
Furman, Mackenzie.....	249

G

Gabriel, Adriana.....	256, 293
Gadzinski, William.....	289
Gagne, Sheldon.....	289
Gallagher, Nathan.....	55, 70
Gallivan, Erin.....	177
Gamble, Stephanie.....	293
Garcia, Renaldo.....	206
Gargiulo, Andrea.....	196
Garland, Alexis.....	256
Garrett, Breanna.....	228
Garrett, Kristin.....	249
Gary, Xavia.....	284
Geary, Amber.....	228
Gehlbach, Melissa.....	62
Geider, Courtney.....	228
George, Hannah.....	177
Geraci, Andrew.....	228
Gerow, Francis.....	240
Ghazzaoui, Ashlyn.....	A
Gibbons, Megan.....	303
Gibbs, Dalton.....	301
Giggetts, Toia.....	214
Gilbert, Nicole.....	172, 173
Giles, Julianne.....	A
Gingher, Susanne.....	216, 217
Girl, JMU Gossip.....	109
Glago, Mikael.....	120
Glomb, Alyssa.....	228
Glover, Amanda.....	240
Glynn, Kaitlin.....	256
Goldstein, Amy.....	176, 177, 256
Golibart, Sarah.....	134
Goodman, Janey.....	189
Gorder, Daniel Van.....	267
Gordon, Jaclyn.....	174
Gordon, Joshua.....	303
Goss, Casey.....	169
Grady, Maura.....	174
Grande, Shelby.....	177
Grant, Joshua.....	206, 207
Grant, Tevonte.....	293
Gray, Melissa.....	256
Greene, Kristen.....	172
Gress, Taylor.....	174
Groban, Bill.....	206
Groener, Brian.....	289
Gross, Alexis.....	174
Gross, Dalton.....	240
Grossel, Hailey.....	256
Guan, Emily.....	290, 291, 292
Guendert, Alexandra.....	303
Guiffre, Danielle.....	147
Guillen, Jeanne.....	271

Gunst, Mark.....	168
Gupta, Jyoti.....	19, 240
Gustave, Amber.....	302

H

Haddad, Michael.....	211
Hagans, Nicholas.....	143
Hagen, Rachel.....	172, 180, 181
Hahn-Ventrell, Sierra.....	189
Halik, Elissa.....	208
Hall, Precious.....	214, 215
Hall, Shannon.....	229
Hamilton, Stephanie.....	208
Hankin, Madeline.....	240
Hanson, Christopher.....	168
Harlow, Kellie.....	229
Harman, Katie.....	172
Harpster, Anna.....	172
Harrington, Erika.....	196
Harrington, Griffin.....	90, 107, 304
Harris, Lindsay.....	256
Harris, Robert.....	266
Harrison, Nicholas.....	240
Hart, Gerard.....	229
Hasnain, Sarah.....	19
Hatahet, Katrina.....	303
Haveles, Andrew.....	280, 303
Hayes, Hannah.....	208
Haynes, Nicola.....	192, 193
Healy, Schylar.....	174
Healy, Zachary.....	303
Heath, Morgan.....	208
Heilman, Jeremy.....	301
Heiman, Seattle.....	229
Hendrix, Abby.....	174
Henshaw, Taylor.....	22
Herb, Courtney.....	303
Herndon, Ashley.....	208
Herring, Alexis.....	293
Hetherington, Lauren.....	229
Hewitt, Valerie.....	229
Hicks, Madison.....	196
Hill, Brandon.....	196
Hill, Callum.....	206
Hirschhorn, Julie.....	287, 303, 309
Hodges, Mavis.....	256
Hoehlein, Brittany.....	276
Hoffer, Philecia.....	291, 292
Hoffman, Kristianna.....	240
Hogan, Christopher.....	266
Holder, Lauren.....	17, 303
Holdgreiwe, Gavin.....	229
Holloway, Courtney.....	229
Holman, Sarah.....	229
Hontz, Victoria.....	56, 57
Hooper, Aimee.....	217
Hoover, Aaron.....	168, 169
Hoover, Colleen.....	257
Hore, Esha.....	257
Howard, Cori.....	229
Howard, Rhys.....	206
Howell, Morgan.....	280
Howerton, Michael.....	168
Hsieh, David.....	299
Hsieh, Dora.....	271, 299
Huang, Xicheng.....	299
Hubbard, Christian.....	196
Hubert, Bailee.....	177
Hudgins, Erin.....	257
Huffman, Alison.....	303
Huffman, Christopher.....	168
Huie Alex.....	167
Hull, Mary.....	22
Hummer, Kristin.....	229
Humphreys, Aaron.....	90
Humphries, Jessica.....	249
Humphries, Joshua.....	303
Hunter, Brittany.....	257
Huschke, Alison.....	172
Huschke, Allison.....	180
Husum, Kevin.....	168
Hutchson, Andrew.....	266
Huynh, Minh.....	291, 292
Hwang, Anthony.....	292
Hyland, Katherine.....	208, 209
Hymel, Avery.....	106

I

Ignacio, Alyssa.....	291
II, Deron Page.....	259
III, Francis Gerow.....	240
III, Frank Bozich.....	289
III, Joseph Walker.....	244
Improv'd, New and.....	70
Inkrote, Alicia.....	183
Irvine, Brittany.....	240
Isherwood, Bryan.....	271
IV, John Bowden.....	289
IV, William Duvall.....	289
Ivey, Rachel.....	208

Jones, Destiny.....	214
Jones, Elizabeth.....	257
Jones, Jasmine.....	230
Jones, Kelsey.....	296
Jones, Lucas.....	289
Jones, Marquia.....	257, 293
Jones, Nia.....	172
Jones, Nick.....	129
Jones, Sydney.....	293
Jones, Trey.....	168
Jordan, Mitchell.....	206
Joseph, Devin.....	298
Joyce, Rachel.....	298
Jr., Calton Hall.....	212
Jr., Calvin Parson.....	242
Jr., Jeffrey Riddle.....	301
Jr., Robert O'Driscoll.....	212
Jr., Robert Shymansky.....	260
Jr., Robert Summers.....	212
Jr., Ronald Curry.....	212
Jr., Thomas Barnes.....	238
Jr., Timothy Atlee.....	254
Jr., William Duvall.....	240
Justis, Christopher.....	34

Kim, Ariel.....	291
Kim, Cynthia.....	305
Kimball, Jordan.....	196
Kincaid, Rachel.....	249
Kindler, Joshua.....	289
King, Kennedy.....	172
Kiser, Paula.....	150
Kleespies, MacKenzie.....	189
Klinger, Lauren.....	241
Klock, Kaicee.....	303
Klumpp, Anna.....	208
Knapp, Mallory.....	17
Kniceley, Melissa.....	241
Knox, Kayla.....	257
Koch, Tucker.....	191
Kochan, Erin.....	230
Kochis, Coral.....	196
Kohler, Kacie.....	249
Komisarcik, Victoria.....	257
Koransky, Sarah.....	230
Korba, Rachel.....	285
Kresky, Alexandra.....	230
Kressel, Anna.....	122
Krichten, Garrick.....	258
Kropaczek, Stacey.....	116
Krugh, Taylor.....	168
Kuang, Jiamin.....	292
Kuhn, Jason.....	168
Kunkel, Christopher.....	199
Kuykendall, Joseph.....	212
Kwon, Natalie.....	296
Kyle Folbrecht.....	240

Lee, Eun.....	258
Lee, JiEun.....	258
Lee, Justin.....	286, 290, 291, 292
Lee, Michelle.....	290
Lee, Rebecca.....	258
Lee, Ryan.....	289
Lee, Yoo Jin.....	288
Legaspi, Maria.....	193
Legendre, Chelsea.....	230
Lehman, Olivia.....	217
Lei, Suiru.....	299
Lemaire, John.....	266
LeMaire, John.....	266
Lempke, Arijana.....	276
Lentile, Colleen.....	287, 310, 313
Leonetti, Samantha.....	271
Lepper, Brian.....	258
Lerer, Danielle.....	287, 309
Lese, Kathryn.....	113
Leshner, Stefanie.....	230
Lester, Thomas.....	258
Levering, Andrew.....	70
Levine, Russell.....	289
Lewallen, Elizabeth.....	258
Lewandowski, Danielle.....	303
Lewis, Macklemore & Ryan.....	22
Li, Xuxi.....	241
Lilley, Katherine.....	231
Lineburg, Kelsey.....	131
Littman, Ashley.....	285
Liu, Brandon.....	281
Liu, Meili.....	258
Liu, Wengian.....	292
Liu, Wengian.....	299
Live, Maddy Night.....	55
Lizarraga, Katia.....	152
Lobuts, Paige.....	287, 308
Lockard, Andrea.....	276
Lofton, Samantha.....	208
Lomax, Lacey.....	196
Long, Sydnie.....	281
Longworth, Bradley.....	289
Lopez, Riley.....	300
Lopresti, Erin.....	172, 180
Louie, Jennifer.....	281
Lowery, Tenea.....	293
Lubin, Jacqueline.....	241
Ludwig, Samuel.....	196
Lukic, Ivan.....	212
Lynch, Casey.....	258
Lyons, D'Quaun.....	90
Lyons, Julia.....	241

J

K

Jablonski, Hannah.....	174
Jackson, Melissa.....	285
Jackson, Taylor.....	206
Jacob, Michael.....	303
Jacobs, Bryan.....	303
Jannos, Taylor.....	229
Jeans, Brittany.....	208
Jedlicka, Joseph.....	230, 303
Jenkins, Carley.....	208
Jenkins, Tony.....	302
Jeon, Chae Yeun.....	257
Jesschke, Michael.....	301
Jin, Jing Jing.....	280
Jochem, Sarah.....	257
Johannah.....	15
Johnson, Annie.....	172
Johnson, Bjorn.....	178
Johnson, Brett.....	168
Johnson, Haley.....	208
Johnson, Javionte.....	293
Johnson, Kia.....	122
Johnson, Kyle.....	297
Johnson, Morgan.....	217
Johnson, Pete.....	62, 63
Johnson, Scott.....	302
Johnson-Gresham, Alexis.....	235

Kalavritinos, Ashley.....	300
Kamel, Nizar.....	289
Kannewurff, Marissa von.....	285
Kapnick, Michael.....	266
Kapsak, Christopher.....	191
Karass, Yana.....	257
Kashetta, Madison.....	49
Kassalow, Eve.....	66
Katcher, Dylan.....	304
Kathol, Niels.....	164, 165
Kearney, Erin.....	257
Keefe, Brianna.....	196
Keel, Ellen.....	271
Keeve, Duana.....	230
Keifer, Heather.....	209
Kelly, Hunter.....	285
Kelly, Sean.....	291
Kemp, Miranda.....	208
Kempter, Samantha.....	230
Kenney, Stephen.....	241
Kent, Jackson.....	212
Kerrigan, Kelly.....	208
Kettler, Elizabeth.....	44, 45, 230
Khan, Sarah.....	167
Khan, Zareena.....	118
Kiefer, Heather.....	208

L

Laboy, Jon-Altair.....	230
Lam, Vi.....	291
Lamb, Rebecca.....	303
Lambert, Haley.....	208, 230, 287, 310, 311
Lambrechts, Andrew.....	77
Landry, Kristen.....	172, 173, 180, 181
Lang, Griffin.....	178, 179
Langton, Kelsey.....	172, 180
Lantz, Christopher.....	114
Larson, Evan.....	199
Laskey, Megan.....	271
Lawler, Brian.....	168
Le, Trinh.....	290
LeBlanc, Gabriel.....	196
Lee, Benjamin.....	291
Lee, Elizabeth.....	249

M

MacFarlane, Kyle.....	289
MacGregor, Rachel.....	74
Maclin, Ellen.....	231
Madero, Johanna.....	303
Maggio, Amanda.....	231
Maggio, Nicholas.....	303
Maguire, Kelly.....	189
Maher, Sarah.....	96
Majid, Fahduma.....	303
Majid, Syed.....	241
Mak, Jun Ki.....	192, 193
Maldonado, Dean.....	305
Malloy, Meghan.....	172, 180
Malone, Francis.....	286
Mamun, Abdullah.....	286, 290, 292
Manalel, Ashley.....	288
Mania-Casey, Kathleen.....	66
Manley, Ashlin.....	147
Mannino, Michele.....	231
Manrau, Karel.....	206
Mantorana, Nicole.....	70
Marable, Shenika.....	293
Markos, Hailey.....	47
Marsilio, Nicholas.....	231
Martin, Andrew.....	25
Martin, Anne.....	174
Martin, Cameron.....	217
Martin, Jonathan.....	305
Martin, Lindsey.....	241
Martin, Robert San.....	168
Maruschak, Margaret.....	271
Mashinski, Steven.....	206
Matthew Delong.....	255
Matthew, Taylor.....	258
Matthews, Taylor.....	258
Mayman, Samuel.....	61
Maynard, Emily.....	196
Mazzei, Natali.....	258
McAuley, Rachel.....	258
McCallum, Kathryn.....	44, 48, 249
McCarthy, Brianna.....	241
McCarthy, Brittany.....	271
McCarthy, Christina.....	174
McConnell, Megan.....	303
McCurry, Kendall.....	249
McDonald, Abbie.....	258
McDonald, Marissa.....	293
McFarland, Tyler.....	168, 169
McGinty, Abigail.....	198
McGuire, Jonathan.....	241
McKissick, Danielle.....	259
McLaughlin, Taryn.....	217
McMillan, Ashley.....	285

McShane, Colin.....	266
McVicar, Kathleen.....	60
McWeeny, Ryan.....	241
Meiers, Krista.....	241
Melendez, Danny.....	90
Melkonian, Samantha.....	65
Mendelson, Rachel.....	196, 214
Menton, Thomas.....	203
Meredith Dhillon.....	270
Mertz, Jenna.....	174
Merulo, Nicholas.....	168
Mervine, Kimberly.....	271
Mickens, Angela.....	214
Miles, Alison.....	281, 309
Miller, Casey.....	231
Miller, Dillon.....	271
Miller, Haley.....	208
Miller, Lana.....	242
Miller, Sarah Lauren.....	285
Miner, Adam.....	15, 303
Mitchell, Estelle.....	303
Mitchell, Samantha.....	214
Mitchell, Shane.....	309
Mize, Joshua.....	242
Moberg, Haley.....	266
Mody, Pratik.....	300
Mohajer, Shayda.....	86
Molano, Carl.....	217
Monaghan, Timothy.....	242
Monks, Sean.....	196
Monticello, Leah.....	174
Mooney, Sarah.....	208
Moore, Patrick.....	206
Moorhead, Brett.....	165
Morgan, Emily.....	231
Morgan, Trevor.....	302
Morris, Caroline.....	172, 180
Morris, Ciarra.....	172
Morris, Claire.....	305
Morrison, Addy.....	217
Mortillo, Andrew.....	304
Morton, Kyle.....	206
Moyer, Sarah.....	174
Mueller, Matthew.....	303
Mullen, Christopher.....	242
Mullen, Paige.....	259
Mulqueen, Shannon.....	300
Mundell, Tessa.....	172, 180, 181
Murphy, Madalyn.....	217
Musa, Sarah.....	281

N

Nagel, Robert.....	131, 273
Nagourney, Zachary.....	126
Nakamura, Kaitlyn.....	293
Naldini, Cristina.....	96
Nash, Morgen.....	293
Nation, Andre.....	212, 213
Necessary, Hayley.....	242, 300
Nejako, Frances.....	88
NELSON, RACHEL.....	167
Nelson, Zachary.....	289
Newberry, Erika.....	259
Newcity, Colin.....	206
Newman, Brittany.....	277
Newman, Nicole.....	214
Nguyen, Amelia.....	186
Nguyen, Cindy.....	291
Nguyen, Duc Tam.....	288
Nguyen, Loan.....	285
Nguyen, Nga Thu.....	291
Nguyen, Quincy.....	300
Nguyen, Quynh.....	286, 291
Nguyen, Tien-Lillian.....	291
Nguyen, Tiffany.....	291
Nguyen, Van.....	288, 291
Nguyen, Victoria.....	296
Nikolic, Aneta.....	100
Niski, Meghan.....	189
Nixon, Thomas.....	96
Nobles, Stacey.....	172
Normand, Allison Paige.....	145
Norstrand, Grace Van.....	244

O

O'Brien, Sean.....	61
O'Connor, Sarah.....	51
Obenshain, Tyler.....	120
Ober, Paige.....	18
Okafor, Kimberly.....	271
Old, Bethany.....	277
Ortiz, Devin.....	271
Osmer, Lukas.....	301
Ou, Jiangda.....	286, 292
Ours, Samuel St.....	305
Overtone, The.....	70
Owen, Jessica.....	231
Owusu-Agyemang, Kwasi.....	231
Owusu-Sampah, Ebony.....	172
O'Connor, Charity.....	50
O'Neill, John.....	304

P

Pa, Andrew.....	196
Paduch, Kelly.....	259
Page, Deron.....	259
Palfi, Olivia.....	242, 297
Palmer, Lynsey.....	298
Palmerton, Abigail.....	298
Palmucci, Jacqueline.....	166, 167, 242
Palmucci, Jacqueline.....	167
Palumbo, Rachel.....	177
Paneru, Monica.....	281
Pania, Neal.....	242
Paonessa, Kaitlyn.....	300
Papageorgis, Stephanie.....	300
Pardes, Alexander.....	259
Park, Hyung Kyu.....	231
Park, Taylor.....	259
Parker, Meredith.....	303
Parravani, Jenny.....	231
Parrott, Kyren.....	168
Parson, Calvin.....	242
Paschal, Michaela.....	196

Passtor, Abigail.....	300
Patrick, Matthew.....	242
Pattaropong, Poom.....	191
Patterson, Brittany.....	66
Patterson, Sarah.....	189
Payne, Carolyn.....	180
Payne, Carrie.....	172
Pearson, James.....	168
Pennington, Heather.....	259
Perotta, Leah.....	174
Petillo, Michelle.....	242
Pettis, Alicia.....	231, 303
Pfost, Ashley.....	242
Pham, Vahuy.....	291
Philleo, Sierra.....	249
Phillips, Cara.....	196
Phillips, Jessica.....	196
Phillips, Kristin.....	232
Phillips, Williams.....	212
Phun, Samantha.....	291
Piatkowski, Daniel.....	301, 302
Pierce, Christian.....	212
Pijanowski, Katherine.....	272
Pillion, Emily.....	174
Pinchoff, Taylor.....	166, 167
Pinkleton, Caila.....	243
Pino, Christina.....	243
Pinto, Yoav.....	289
Piotrowicz, Megan.....	174
Piraino, Emily.....	232
Pittman, William.....	55
Pitts, Mary.....	52, 60, 80, 281, 287
Pitts, Rebekah.....	309
Placha, Jaclyn.....	189
Poelma, Emily.....	174
Pollhammer, Kelly.....	243
Pontanilla, Nicole.....	196, 197
Popovich, Zachary.....	289
Portillo, Jessica.....	243
Poutre, Rachel.....	298
Powell, Victoria.....	127
Prescott, Sarah.....	80
Presgraves, Amanda.....	217
Proctor, Lauren.....	196
Provance, David.....	289
Psallidas, Melissa.....	232
Pumphrey, David.....	61

Q

Qarghah, Mohammad.....	305
Quackenbush, John.....	266
Quimuyog, Logan.....	168
Quintero, Laura.....	154, 232
Qura, Michael.....	212

R

Rader, Meghan.....	136
Radhi, Hanna.....	189
Radinovic, Bennett.....	259
Ragan, Casey.....	303
Rakes, Kelsey.....	259
Rand, Cari.....	205
Rano, Shannon.....	208
Ravenel, Brandon.....	195
Rayburn, Mike.....	25
Rea, Elizabeth.....	23
Redden, Ashley.....	259
Reed, Michele.....	232
Reeder, Jessica.....	285
Reeser, Dustyn.....	266
Reifsnider, Elizabeth.....	174
Reilly, Christina.....	309
Reitano, Kristen.....	177
Rellick, Adam.....	122, 232
Renaud, Ryan.....	243
Revel, Alexandra.....	174
Rhoads, Emily.....	174
Richardson, Ashley.....	259
Richardson, Kristi.....	189
Richbourg, Brent.....	300
Richer, Emma.....	217
Ricketti, John.....	206
Rider, Erin.....	232
Ridgway, Griffith.....	303
Ridders, Scott.....	62
Riley, John.....	303
Rios, Noelia.....	260
Rivard, Thomas.....	212

Roadley, Alexandra.....	309	Schmitt, Erin.....	272
Roberts, Elijah.....	36	Scholberg, Natalie.....	249
Roberts, Jessica.....	281	Schreffler, Tyler.....	260
Robertson, Stephon.....	194	Schroeder, Todd.....	243
Robertson, Steve.....	243	Schwartz, Katherine.....	285
Robinson, Margaret.....	266	Schwartz, Rachel.....	260
Robinson, Mark.....	267	Schwarz, Melany.....	277
Robinson, Shelby.....	174	Scott, Caitlin.....	232
Rocholl, Heather.....	243	Scott, DaeQuan.....	194
Rodgers, Lauren.....	272	Scott, Emily.....	118
Rodriguez, Robert.....	300	Scullin, Alyson.....	260
Roguski, Amy.....	174	Seattle Heiman.....	229
Rohlehr, Allysia.....	214	Sechler, Eileen.....	208
Rojanavongse, Ashleigh.....	243	Sedivy, Matthew.....	56, 57
Rojural, Jiraporn.....	303	Semenov, Andrey.....	212
Roppert, Daniel.....	206	Settimio, Gina.....	243
Rosati, Jessica.....	288	Settle, Christopher.....	78
Rosen, Blair.....	196	Seward, Justice.....	172
Rossi, Nicole.....	172	Seymour, Kelsey.....	172, 180
Rountree, Jasmine.....	232	Shah, Shirali.....	288
Rowan, Delia.....	260	Shahin, Aram.....	80
Rowan, Julia.....	260	Shannon, Brittany.....	196
Russo, Michael.....	206	Sharp, Dakota.....	61
Ruzic, Miljan.....	164, 165	Shea, Shannon.....	196
Ryals, Dianté.....	305	Sheaffer, Morgan.....	172, 180
Ryan, Jennifer.....	249	Shekiro, Emery.....	260, 298
Rzepka, Megan.....	309	Sheppard, Katherine.....	217
		Shifflett, Monica.....	232
		Shinaberry, Megan.....	208
		Shoemaker, William.....	272
		Shymansky, Robert.....	260
		Siker, Steven.....	289
		Simmons, Destiny.....	172
		Simpson, Daniel.....	206
		Simpson, Trevor.....	289
		Singleton Visot, Corey.....	243
		Singson, Felicia.....	302
		Sjostrom, Julie.....	232
		Slattery, Christopher.....	301, 302
		Slattery, Julia.....	100
		Slocum, Ryan.....	72, 233
		Smallwood, Sarah.....	260
		Smelser, Lauren.....	260
		Smiertka, Samantha.....	176, 177
		Smith, David.....	301
		Smith, Deandre.....	194
		Smith, Elissa.....	233
		Smith, Mason.....	165
		Smith, Michael.....	300
		Smith, Robert.....	303
		Smith, Savannah.....	152
		Smith, Shane.....	300
		Smith, Trey.....	190, 191
		Smith, Walter.....	165
		Snarr, Benjamin.....	260
		Snedegar, Caroline.....	243
		Snyder, Maria.....	172, 180
		Solak, Samantha.....	300
		Solan, Kelsey.....	193
		Song, Eumee.....	290
		Song, Eun Kim.....	300
		Song, Xiao.....	289
		Song, Yanou.....	244
		Sparks, Rebecca.....	208, 209

S

Saal, Alexander.....	141
Sabo, Andrew.....	196
Safranek, Sara.....	260
Saintcross, Jacob.....	199
Salinas, Sebastian.....	165
Samantha Thompson.....	281
Samek, Krista.....	232
Sanchez-Ycaza, Pamela.....	288
Sandy, Caitlin.....	208, 209
Sanmartin, Juan.....	98
Satkus, Paulius.....	212
Saunders, Trey.....	206
Savage, Alexandra.....	217
Savage, Lauren.....	285
Savastano, Danielle.....	196
Saxman, Nathan.....	116
Saylor, Jade.....	177
Scala, David.....	303
Schade, Marissa.....	285
Schierenbeck, Kiersten.....	303
Schimmel, Brandon.....	301
Schmidt, Eric.....	206

Spolter, Leila.....	88
Sprague, Nathan.....	273
Sroba, Virginia.....	208
Stahlberger, Michele.....	272
Stallings, Rhakeem.....	194
Stanford, Renee.....	298
Stanley, Andrea.....	261
Stanley, Erika.....	261
Stansell-Gamm, Timothy.....	302
Stanton, Alexander.....	261
Starke, Carly Elizabeth.....	272
Starkloff, Kaci.....	174
Starry, Kelly.....	244
Stearns, Lauren.....	309
Steele, Gage.....	194
Steele, Hayley.....	298
Stevens, Robert.....	244
Stevenson, Cobey.....	261
Stewart, Kathleen.....	172, 180
Stewart, Martha.....	189
Stijntjes, Loes.....	177
Stirling, Robert.....	165
Stopak, Nicholas.....	289
Stout, Benjamin.....	304
Strange, Julie.....	172, 180
Stratton, Carly.....	196
Strock, Carol.....	172, 180
Stynchula, Marlee.....	208, 209
Sullivan, Bryan.....	90
Sullivan, Rebecca.....	310, 313
Sun, Suong.....	299
Suttmiller, Luke.....	168
Sutton, Anthony.....	284, 293
Svadeba, Haley.....	196
Svites, Laura.....	309
Szwejkowski, Chester.....	272
Szymanski, Melissa.....	267

T

Ta, Phuong.....	291
Tacci, Rachel.....	134
Taibuer, Summer.....	299
Tait, Emily.....	152
Tan, Chang.....	291, 292
Tarafas, Stephanie.....	177
Tatum, Amani.....	214
Taylor, Amberlee.....	303
Taylor, Joseph.....	37
Taylor's, Amberlee.....	142
Team, Mozaic Dance.....	70
Temsupasiri, Anthony.....	289

Tenaglia, Matthew.....	168
Theisen, Joyce.....	196
Thiagaraj, Karishma.....	193
Thomas, Jesse.....	297
Thomas, Kaitlin.....	303
Thomas, Mariah.....	285
Thomason, Zachary.....	289
Thompson, Ethan.....	267
Thompson, Kirsten.....	261
Thompson, Samantha.....	281
Thoppil, Christina.....	196
Thress, Mark.....	61
Thruston, Emily.....	261
Thurston, Megan.....	143
Till, Titus.....	194
Toohers, Patrick.....	168
Toohey, Mary Jane.....	174
Tran, Christine.....	291
Tran, My.....	291, 292
Tran, Sendy.....	293, 296
Tremols, Nina.....	217
Trinkle, Ella.....	303
Trittipoe, Melissa.....	261
Trotman, Johnathan.....	141
Truesdale, Alyssa.....	244
Tsai, Alice.....	299
Tu, Avian.....	244, 296
Tupper, Natalie.....	261

U

Ullah, Jasmin.....	185
Umar, Jamal.....	206
Underwood, Jordan.....	244
Usami, Masayasu.....	288

V

Valentine, Samuel.....	61
Van Gorder, Daniel.....	267
Van Norstrand, Grace.....	244
Van Winkle, Jillian.....	261
Varma, Nina.....	205
Vatte, Adrienne le.....	177
Vernarsky, Shane.....	62
Verschoore, Hannah.....	174
Vest, Jamie.....	298
Via, Jeremy.....	298
Vieni, Jennifer.....	217
Visotski, Corey Singleton.....	243
Vo, Kristine.....	291, 292
Vodanovich, Thomas.....	212
Vollman, Taylor.....	17, 303, 309
Von Wald, Melissa.....	267

W

Waddell, Jasmine.....	172
Wagner, Casey.....	233
Wainer, Bruce.....	233
Waingortin, Vanina.....	303
Wald, Melissa Von.....	267
Walisko, Eric.....	304
Walker, Calvin.....	293
Walker, Jasmine.....	293
Walker, Joseph.....	244
Walker, Rachel.....	193
Walter, Abigail.....	287, 309
Walter, Summer.....	172
Walters, Connor.....	191
Wang, Yujing.....	299
Warren, Joshua.....	212
Warren, Matthew.....	273
Waryn, Kellie.....	233
Watkins, Rachel.....	172
Waugh, James.....	301
Weaver, Carson.....	233

Weaver, Taelor.....	196
Webster, Louis.....	233
Weeks, Peter.....	305
Weinard, Nicole.....	233
Weiss, Jon.....	191
Welch, Cheryl.....	233
Wells, Courtney.....	261
Wells, Joshua.....	244
Wells, Rebecca.....	196
Welsford, Jason.....	244, 300, 304
Werne, Anatash.....	74, 301
Werner, Gregory.....	212
Wertz, Elizabeth.....	233, 287, 310, 312
Wessels, Kelsey.....	60
Wessels, Nikola.....	193
West, Taylor.....	177
Westbrook, Kala.....	180
Westbrook, Tiel.....	172
Westerfield, Eric.....	233
Weston, Kyle.....	168
Weyman, Jennifer.....	139
Wheeler, Jessica.....	60
Wheeler, Kyler.....	289
Whitaker, Mike.....	206
White, Casey.....	174
White, Helen.....	272
White, Nicholas.....	277
Whitebread, Tim.....	206
Whitehurst, Megan.....	250
Whitmire, Kathleen.....	189
Wi, Sophia.....	292
Widmann, Justin.....	300
Widner, Haley.....	208
Wiechmann, Megan.....	261
Wiesinger, Claire.....	285
Wigand, Julie.....	300, 303
Wigglesworth, Sara.....	303
Wilborne, Shawn.....	212
Wilk, Brian.....	A
Wilkins, Chelsea.....	15
Wilkins, Jordan.....	174
Wilkins, Maria.....	285
Willert, Joseph.....	244
Williams, Angela.....	309
Williams, Ashley.....	172, 173
Williams, Caroline.....	244
Williams, Jacob.....	39
Williams, Kacy.....	245
Williams, Maddy.....	309
Williams, Matthew.....	233
Williams, Taylor.....	100
Williams, Tyler.....	191
Williamson, Dakota.....	250
Wilson, Alison.....	105
Wilson, Danielle.....	177
Wilson, Greg.....	309
Wilson, Jessica.....	196
Wilson, Joshua.....	245, 302
Wilson, Lauren.....	208
Wilson, Patrick.....	84, 85
Wimmert, Lena.....	177
Windels, Ryan.....	303
Winfrey, Rachel.....	200

Winkle, Jillian Van	261
Wirchin, Renna	261
Wise, Nathan	289
Wisniewski, Matthew	25
Withers, Brandon	168
Withers, Everett	149
Woerner, Elizabeth	234
Womack, Bradley	234
Won, Sin Hye	217
Wood, Emily	100
Wood, Kaleigh	281
Woodward, Brett	178
Woodyard, Marquis	194
Wu, Tsung-Yu	272
Wyatt, Joshua	168
Wysocki, Alexandra	234

XYZ

Xu, Weiwei	288, 299
Yan, Jun	272
Yang, Feifan	291, 292
Yang, Xue	299
Yarnoff, Shannon	262
Yee, Krysten	262
Yelverton, Caseybeth	281
Yeshi, Tenzin	296
Yeung, Lauren	291, 292
York, Amie	245
Young, Anna	114
Young, Cameron	304
Zalewski, Kristen	245
Zawacki, Kara	262
Zeng, Linda	292
Zhang, Yunpeng	299
Zielinski, Kristen	217
Zilinsleas, Zachary	301
Zimak, Tara	141
Zu, Yanyi	299
Zurlo, Alyssa	208
Zwicker, Elizabeth	262

COLOPHON

Production

Balfour Publishing Company and Taylor Publishing, located in Texas, published the entirety of The Bluestone, volume 105. The editors used Macintosh versions of Adobe Creative Suite 6 and Microsoft Word 2008 to create 336 pages. This yearbook covers events from March 2013 to March 2014. Sarah Lockwood, Tami Cash and Scott Stalcup served as the publishing representatives and Angela Holt as the account executive.

Cover and endsheets

The Bluestone held a contest for the cover of The Bluestone and the design that Miajah Brabham created was chosen. The cover has a soft touch lamination with UV lamination and embossing; the word "real" on the cover is varnished and embossed; it is the blue that is used throughout the rest of the book.

Fonts

The Bluestone used the Olympia and Stafford font families.

Colors

Four colors were used throughout The Bluestone:

Blue: C=60, M=0, Y=20, K=0

Green: C=40, M=0, Y=60, K=0

Pink: C=0, M=60, Y=60, K=0

Gray: C=10, M=0, Y=0, K=60

Photography

Staff Photographers and generous individuals submitted all of the photographs used in The Bluestone. Prestige Portraits took the student portraits in the academics section.

Organizations

The organizations that are featured in The Bluestone purchased their pages. Students and organizations were told that they could buy organization photos through direct emailing, informational emails and updates on The Bluestone's Facebook and Twitter account.

Editorial

Editorial content does not necessarily reflect the views of the university. The editor-in-chief accepts responsibility for all content in the book.

Contact

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THANKS

Our Families

The Lambert family
The Wertz family
The Fogarty family
The Lentile family
The Sullivan family
The Hayes family

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Office of the Student Activities and Involvement
University Marketing
University Program Board
UREC

Students play frisbee on the Quad. In warm weather, many students played sports, did homework or tanned on the Quad with friends.





Students gather together to discuss free handouts from an event. Many students attended events like Student Organization Night where they received many free items from campus organizations.



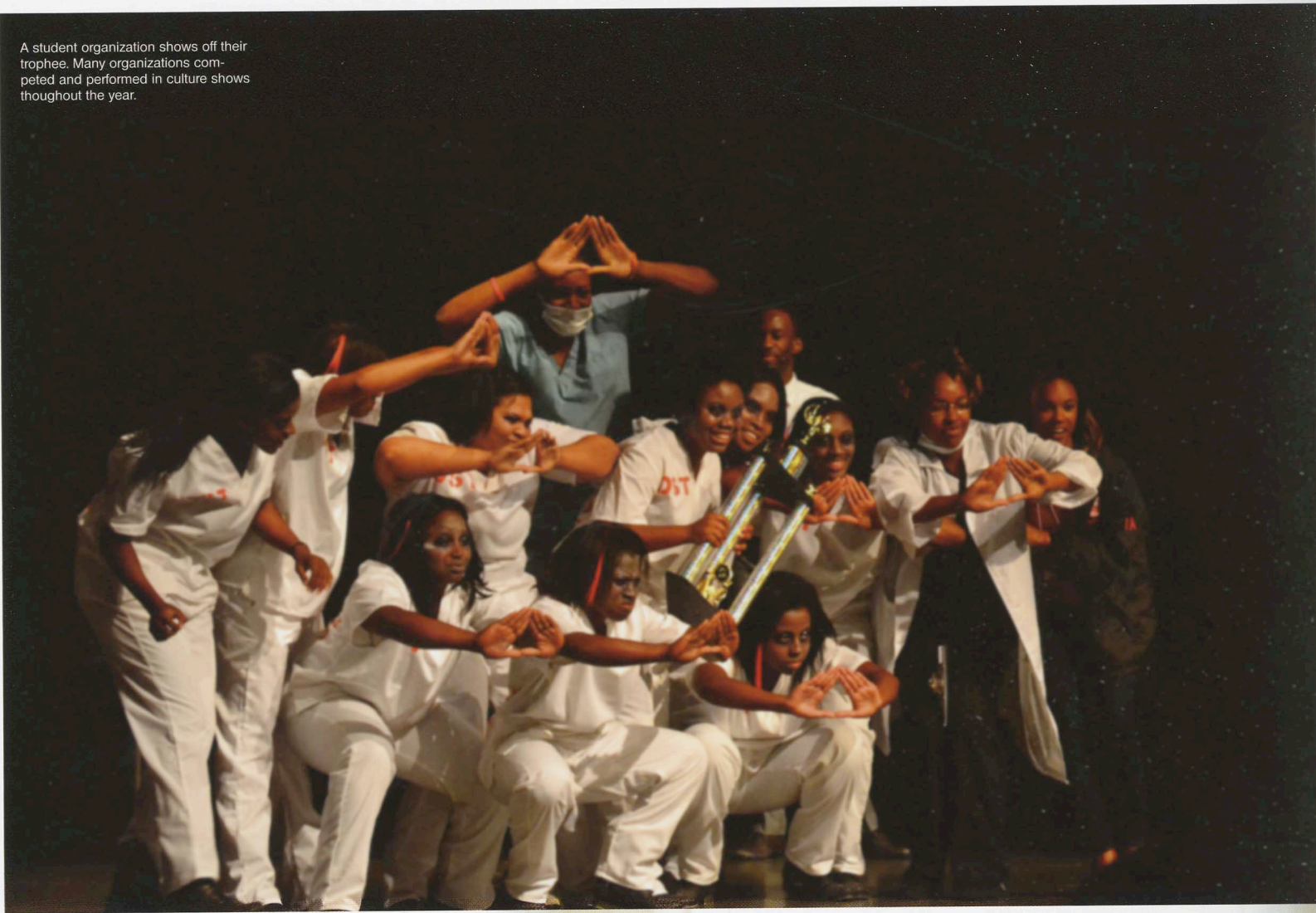
Music professor Amadi Azikawe mentors a student. Azikawe played viola and performed in many concerts in Forbes Center for the Performing Arts.



Students pie each other for an event on campus. Many events, such as Madipalooza, offered opportunities for students to pie each other or participate in eating competitions.



A student organization shows off their trophy. Many organizations competed and performed in culture shows throughout the year.



A student examines a globe during class. Many courses used hands-on activities like this to engage students and create discussion about their subjects.





Senior Amberlee Taylor paints a fellow students face. Students enjoyed festivities like this during Homecoming Week and 1787 Orientation.



A student examines and adds to a display. In order to engage the student body in events and create discussion, many organizations placed displays around campus.



Flowers bloom in front of the university's sign. Groundskeepers maintained lawns and foliage every day all over campus.



Students play pool in Taylor Down Under. TDU was a hotspot for student activity and many events were held there.



A group of students engage in meditation. Meditation was used by many as a method of relaxation.



Students celebrate during the Homecoming football game. Students dressed in purple and gold and painted their faces and bodies to show their pride in the university.



Snow covers the Quad and surrounding areas during the winter. This year, the school had a record number of school closings due to snow.



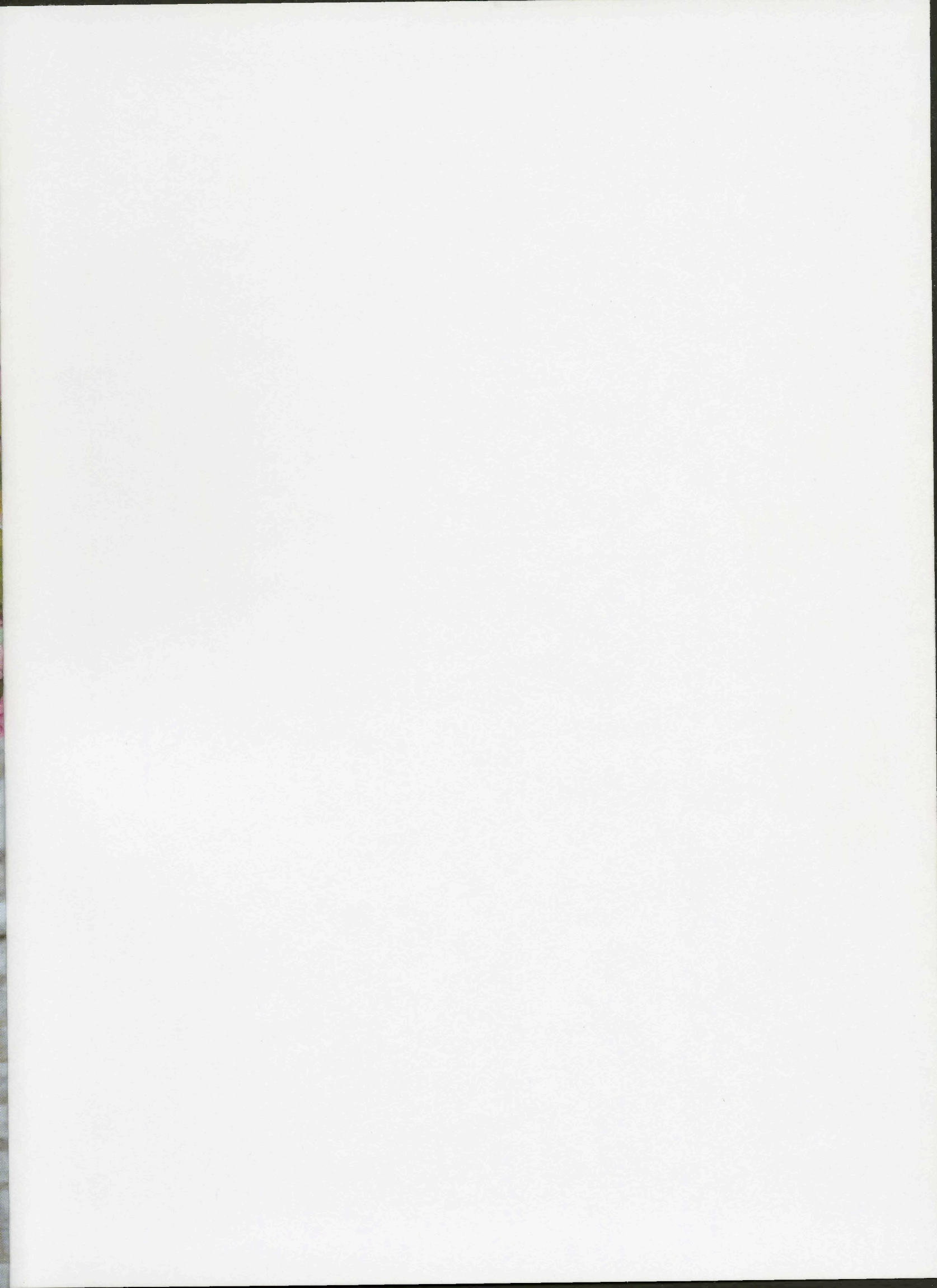






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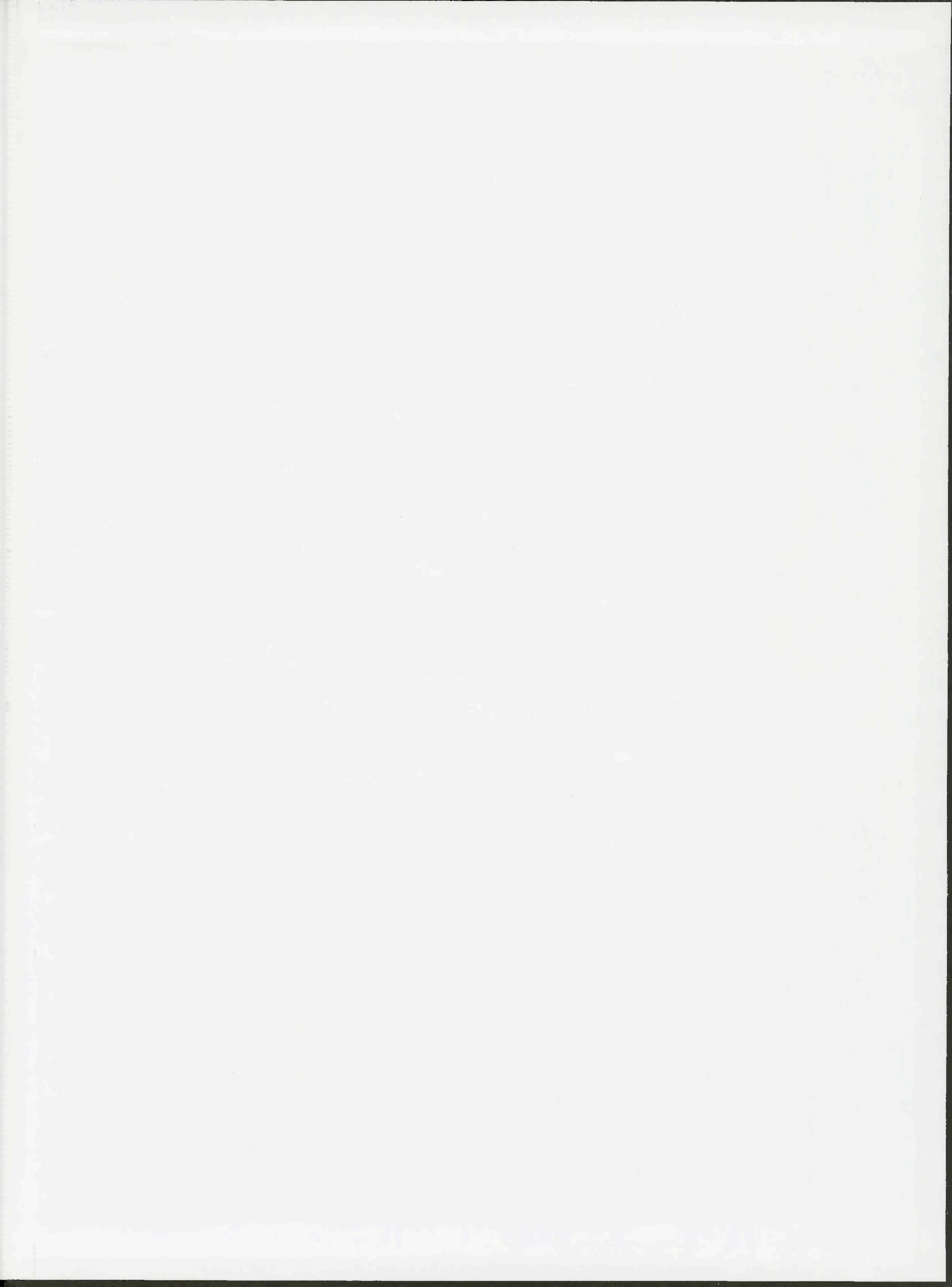
Jordan M. Shawn
Sept. 9, 2013



IN MEMORIAM

Jordan M. Shawn

Sept. 9, 2013



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